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**AGENDA FOR THE 134<sup>th</sup> SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 TO SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008 IN HAMILTON**

<b>Friday, November 7, 2008 – evening</b>		<b>Christ’s Church Cathedral, Hamilton</b>
7:00	Synod Service, Eucharist, and Bishop’s Charge	
<b>Saturday, November 8, 2008</b>		<b>Hamilton Convention Centre</b>
8:00	Synod Member’s Registration	
9:00	Call to Order  Gathering Worship	
9:10	Organizing Synod  - Credentials Committee Report (Motion p. 3) - Welcome to New Members of Synod - Welcome to Guests - Privileges of the House - Election of Synod Secretaries (Motion p.3) - Approval of Minutes of the 133 <sup>rd</sup> Synod Second Session (November 2007)(Motion p.3) - Notices of Motion - Notices of Canonical Change - Agenda/Resolutions Committee Report (Motion p.3) - Reception of All Reports (Motion p.3) - Appointments to Diocesan Court - Announcements - Election of Trinity College Corporation (Motion p.3) - Election of 2009 - 2010 Synod Council Members (Motion p.3) - Affirm Actions of Synod Council (Motion p.4)	
9:25	2009 Provincial Synod Nominations <b><i>Provincial Synod balloting begins</i></b>	
9:30	The Pursuit of Excellence in Ministry: Our Response to the Bishop’s Vision	
10:30	Break	
10:45	The Pursuit of Excellence in Ministry: Our Response to the Bishop’s Vision	
12:00	Grace and Lunch (at tables)	
1:00	The Pursuit of Excellence in Ministry: Our Response to the Bishop’s Vision	
2:00	Break  <b><i>Provincial Synod balloting ends</i></b>	

<b>Saturday, November 8, 2008</b>		<b>Hamilton Convention Centre</b>
2:15	Financial Advisory Committee - 2007 Audited Statements - Auditor's Report - Appointments of Auditors	(Motion p.4) (Motion p.4) (Motion p.4)
2:35	Changes in Canons - 1.1(4) Composition of Synod - 1.2(5) Credentials Committee	(Motion p.5) (Motion p.5)
2:45	Bishop's Response to Motion re: Same Gender Blessings 2007	
3:30	2009 Proposed Budget	(Motion p.4)
4:00	Provincial Synod Election Results	
4:05	Other Business	
4:20	Bishop's Assent and Closing Remarks	
4:35	Bishop's Blessing  Adjournment	

**BEFORE YOU LEAVE PLEASE DEPOSIT YOUR COMPLETED EVALUATION FORM AND NAME TAG IN ONE OF THE BOXES LOCATED AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.**

**FORMAT OF A MOTION**

WHEREAS - reason for the motion

WHEREAS - another reason

etc.

It is therefore moved by \_\_\_\_\_

and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FORMAT OF A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS - reason for the resolution

WHEREAS - another reason

etc.

It is therefore resolved that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Move by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

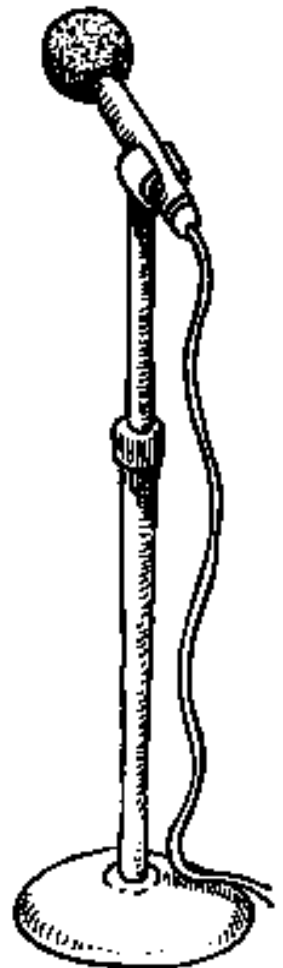
# How to Speak to a Motion

## ***Before you go to the microphone:***

- 1) Put your thoughts on paper and try to say something that hasn't already been said before or at least say it with a new twist.
- 2) Continue listening to the debate.
- 3) Consult with your table mates about ideas and thoughts. (but not too loudly, be considerate of the speaker)

## ***When you go to the microphone:***

- 4) Wait to be acknowledged by the chair.
- 5) Say your name, parish, community.
- 6) State if you are in support or against this motion.
- 7) State your thoughts as clearly as possible supporting your argument with fact or thought.
- 8) Finish with a thank you and return to your seat.
- 9) You make speak only once to each motion.



**MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 133<sup>rd</sup>  
SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
HELD NOVEMBER 15 to 17, 2007 IN HAMILTON**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

**CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON**

The Synod Eucharist was held in the Cathedral. The Bishop delivered his Charge to Synod.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007**

**CHEDOKE HALL, HAMILTON CONVENTION CENTRE**

Registration began at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Spence called Synod to order at 9:00 a.m. Seated at the head table were Bishop Ralph Spence, Bishop Michael Bird, Chancellor Robert Welch, and The Venerable Marion Vincett.

The Synod began with worship.

**REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Chancellor Robert Welch reported that, as of 9:00 a.m., November 16, 2007, 192 out of 272 eligible lay delegates had registered, representing 70.59% of all eligible delegates in the order of laity, and 86 out of 116 eligible clergy delegates had registered, representing 74.14% of all eligible delegates in the order of clergy.

**MOTION:     **Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones  
                  **THAT the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.******

**CARRIED.**

**NEW MEMBERS OF SYNOD**

The Bishop welcomed:

- The Reverend Michael Deed, St. Christopher's, Burlington
- The Reverend Katherine Feher, Church of the Nativity, Hamilton
- The Reverend Paul Sherwood, St. Paul's, Dunnville & The Dunn Parish
- The Reverend Elizabeth Huether, St. Thomas, St. Catharines

**WELCOME TO THE DEACONS REPRESENTING THE COLLEGE OF DEACONS**

- Richard Beaudoin, Anne Crawford, Ronald Pincoe

**WELCOME DIVINITY STUDENTS:**

The Bishop welcomed Mr. Matthew Griffin, Ms. Lucinda Landau, Ms. Sheila Van Zandwyk.

**WELCOME GUESTS**

The Bishop welcomed:

- Mr. Fred Allen (Technical Producer)
- Mr. Christopher Grabiec and Mr. John Janisse (Diocesan Webmasters)

**PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE**

Privileges of the House were extended to:

- Ms. Kathryn Davies (Auditor)
- Mrs. Judy Conning (Finance Budget Sub-Committee)
- The Reverend David Long, Director of Ministry Support

MINUTES OF THE 2006 SYNOD

**MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers  
THAT the minutes of the 2006 session of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Session of  
Synod, as found on pages 5 through 12 of this Convening  
Circular be now approved.**

**CARRIED.**

MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION OF THE 2007 SYNOD

**MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers  
THAT the minutes of the 2007 1<sup>st</sup> session of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Session of  
Synod, as found on pages 13 through 17 of this Convening Circular, be  
now approved.**

**CARRIED.**

NOTICES OF MOTION

Canon Robert Welch advised members that motions could be found on pages 3 and 4 of the Convening Circular. Additional motions handed out at registration, pages 4a, b, c, should be included in the delegates Convening Circular. Two additional Memorials were also distributed at registration and should be inserted in the delegates Convening Circular, pages 119 and 120.

REPORT OF THE AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee, gave his report and outlined procedures. He referred to the agenda, printed on yellow paper and found at the front of the convening circular, page 1. Resolutions/Notices of Motions can be found on page 3 and 4 of the convening circular. Delegates also received a package at registration that includes additional motions.

A mover and a seconder to a resolution or motion will be allowed a total of six minutes to speak. Speakers to a motion will be allowed two minutes each. A "warning" bell will be sounded when 20 seconds are remaining in the speaker's allotted time; and a bell will be sounded to indicate the end of the allotted time.

New motions not included with the Convening Circular package or handed out at registration are to be delivered to the Secretary of Synod as soon as possible and prior to 4:00 pm on Friday. It will be determined when best to deal with new motions. Motions from the floor, which can be dealt with at this Synod session, will be presented on the screens.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones  
THAT the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be  
adopted.**

**CARRIED.**

RECEPTION OF ALL REPORTS

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones  
THAT all reports found in the Convening Circular and obtained at  
registration be received.**

**CARRIED.**



DIOCESAN COURT

The Bishop announced his appointment of three lay and three clergy members of Synod to serve on the Diocesan Court:

Mrs. Susan Little, Mr. Ian Smith, Ms. Gill Tucker, The Reverend Kevin Bothwell,  
The Venerable Lynne Corfield and The Venerable Bruce McPetrie.

The Diocesan Chancellor is automatically a member of Diocesan Court.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

TRINITY COLLEGE CORPORATION

**MOTION: The Venerable Marion Vincett/  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones  
THAT the representative from the Diocese of Niagara to the  
Corporation of Trinity College be the Reverend Joe Asselin (clergy)  
for a term of two years.**

**CARRIED.**

(Please note: the Venerable Tom Greene, Reverend Jeff Ward (clergy), Dr. Gordon Askwith, Mrs. Margaret Reid, Mr. Robert Reid (lay), are continuing members of the Corporation of Trinity College.)

SYNOD COUNCIL ELECTION

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch  
THAT this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and  
alternate regional members for the 2008-2009 term, as outlined on  
the nominations sheet, found on page 119 of this Convening  
Circular.**

**CARRIED.**

The regional slate is as follows:

Members to serve for 2008-2009:

Brock	The Reverend George Henry, Deacon
Greater Wellington	Mrs. Susan Pulleyblank
Lincoln	Mr. John Palmer
Mohawk	The Reverend Canon David Pickett
Trafalgar	The Reverend Suzanne Craven
	Mr. Mitch Banks
Undermount	Mr. Paul Clifford

Alternate members for 2008:

Brock	Mrs. Sue Hannah
Greater Wellington	Mrs. Judy Conning
Lincoln	Ms. Pauline Smith
Mohawk	Mrs. Pat Hyslop
Trafalgar	Mrs. Mary Bishop
Undermount	Mr. Russell Kelk

REDUCING THE EFFECT OF SEASONAL FLU

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/  
The Venerable Marion Vincett  
THAT this Synod encourage parishes to consider doing all  
they can to reduce the effect of seasonal flu in our churches.**

CARRIED.

2006 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell  
THAT the audited financial statements for 2006, as found on pages  
48 through 57, be accepted.**

CARRIED.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell  
THAT the Auditor's Report, as found on page 47, be accepted.**

CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell  
THAT KPMG be appointed as auditors for fiscal year 2007.**

CARRIED.

2008 BUDGET

Mrs. Judy Conning, Chair of the Finance Budget Sub-Committee of the Financial Advisory Committee, and Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer, delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the Proposed 2008 Budget.

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell  
THAT this Synod approve the 2008 proposed budget.**

CARRIED.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS SETTLEMENT FUND

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell  
THAT this Synod approve the transfer of excess funds donated  
to the Diocese of Niagara's commitment for the Residential  
Schools Settlement Fund to the Anglican Church of Canada's  
Healing and Reconciliation Fund by the Diocesan Treasurer.**

CARRIED.

SYNOD COUNCIL

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/  
The Venerable Marion Vincett  
THAT the Synod Council Report, having been fully considered, be  
now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and  
documents entered into and signed on Synod's behalf since the last  
session of Synod, be hereby ratified and confirmed.**

CARRIED.

ENERGY BREAK

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements and acknowledged the contribution of FaithLife Financial in sponsoring the morning break.

DR. CHRISTOPHER LIND – ECOJUSTICE

Dr. Christopher Lind, guest speaker, was introduced. He facilitated a presentation to delegates on EcoJustice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

The Reverend Canon Michael Patterson addressed Synod delegates letting them know of a radio ad campaign, "You Mean More", that would be aired on several different

radio stations throughout Niagara until December 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### GRACE AND LUNCH

The Reverend Canon Lucy Reid, Guelph Chaplaincy, said Grace and lunch was served at the delegate tables.

#### DR. CHRISTOPHER LIND – ECOJUSTICE

Dr. Christopher Lind, guest speaker, continued after lunch. In the afternoon delegates participated in Bible Study.

#### GREENING NIAGARA

**MOTION: Mr. Russell Kelk/The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz  
THAT this Synod call upon each parish in the diocese to curtail green house gas emissions by setting targets for reducing energy consumption and asks that achievements be reported to the annual Vestry meeting of the parish; and**

**THAT this Synod further request our Bishop to appoint a committee to support and encourage this work by developing a Green Parish Accreditation Program along the lines of that developed by the Diocese of New Westminster in 2006.**

**AMENDMENT: Ms. Alicia Archbell/Mr. Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh  
THA this Synod call upon each parish in the diocese to identify current levels of green- house gas emissions and reduce them by 15% over the next year and asks that achievements be reported both to the annual vestry meeting of each parish and to Synod; and**

**THAT this Synod further request our bishop to appoint a committee to support the work by developing a green parish accreditation program along the lines of that developed by the Diocese of New Westminster in 2006 and that each parish form a committee to work to this end in the parish**

**CARRIED.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Dr. Rick Jones, Secretary of Synod, made announcements and acknowledged the contribution of Pollard Windows in sponsoring the afternoon refreshment break.

#### ENERGY BREAK

The Youth led delegates in an Energy Break.

#### COADJUTOR BISHOP MICHAEL BIRD

Coadjutor Bishop Michael Bird gave an address to Synod delegates.

#### BISHOP RALPH SPENCE

Bishop Ralph Spence made a presentation to The Venerable Marion Vincett and thanked her for her ministry in the diocese.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Dr. Rick Jones, Secretary of Synod, made announcements.

The Bishop closed the session with prayer. Synod was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

A reception was held prior to dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The evening dinner was a tribute to Bishop Ralph Spence.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2007**

**CHEDOKE HALL, HAMILTON CONVENTION CENTRE**

The Bishop called the session to order. The morning worship began at 9:00 a.m.

The Bishop thanks delegates for a wonderful evening the previous night. He also extended a special thank you to Karen Nowicki for all her work organizing Synod.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones made various announcements.

**CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL CAMPAIGN**

The Very Reverend Peter Wall, Dean of Christ's Church Cathedral, spoke to delegates about the 'Preserve to Serve' Campaign that was kicked off in September.

**SAME GENDER BLESSINGS**

The Reverend Canon Dr. Rick Jones, Secretary of Synod, announced the rules around the discussion of same-sex blessing.

**MOTION:     The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray/  
                  Ms. Marilyn Robbins**

**THAT this Synod request the Bishop to allow clergy, whose conscience permits, to bless the duly solemnized and registered civil marriages between same-sex couples, where at least one party is baptized, and to authorize rites for such blessings.**

**AMENDMENT:     The Reverend Dianne Distler/Mr. Russell Kelk  
                          THAT this Synod request the Bishop at a time of their discretion, to allow clergy, whose conscience permits, to bless the duly solemnized and registered civil marriages between same-sex couples, where at least one party is baptized, and to authorize rites for such blessings.**

**DEFEATED.**

Point of Order, Mr. Ross Gillett asked if the vote could be standing and recorded. Chancellor Robert Welch told delegates under the Rule of Order that the results of a Standing Vote would be recorded. The Question was Called. Bishop Ralph Spence asked for prayers before the vote. The motion was re-read by the seconder of the motion, Ms. Marilyn Robbins.

**MOTION:     The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray/  
                  Ms. Marilyn Robbins**

**THAT this Synod request the Bishop to allow clergy, whose conscience permits, to bless the duly solemnized and registered civil marriages between same-sex couples, where at least one party is baptized, and to authorize rites for such blessings.**

**CARRIED.**

The vote was counted by orders.

Clergy 82 for, 32 opposed

Lay 157 for, 40 opposed, 2 abstained

The Bishop commented that there would be a lot of consultation in the days ahead in Canada and in the World Wide Communion to put a process in place.

#### EPISCOPAL OVERSIGHT

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall/Mrs. Betty Ann Bushell THAT this Synod call upon all bishops as Christ's leaders and pastors to work tirelessly to rebuild trust, and to work for healing and reconciliation during times of conflict; and**

**THAT bishops from other dioceses or provinces not be permitted to exercise Episcopal oversight or ministry within the Diocese of Niagara without the expressed permission of the bishop of Niagara. Parishes and clergy seeking Alternative Episcopal Oversight may only do so with the approval of the incumbent Bishop of Niagara, who may invite and appoint a bishop from within the Anglican Church of Canada for a pre-determined period of time to provide temporary pastoral and sacramental oversight.**

**AMENDMENT: The Reverend Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall/  
Mrs. Betty Ann Bushell THAT the Synod call upon all bishops as Christ's leaders to work tirelessly to rebuild trust, and to work for healing and reconciliation during times of conflict; and**

**THAT Bishops from other dioceses or provinces not be permitted to exercise Episcopal oversight or ministry within the Diocese of Niagara without appointment by the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario and consent of the Bishop of Niagara; and**

**THAT parishes and clergy seeking alternate Episcopal oversight shall only do so with consent of the Bishop of Niagara and appointment of such Bishop by the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, such appointment to be for a pre-determined period of time to provide temporary pastoral and sacramental oversight.**

**CARRIED.**

Mr. Dave Wilson, St. George's, Lowville, requested that an amendment be made to the motion to include adopting the Windsor Report. Chancellor Robert Welch ruled that this would be a separate motion. Mr. Dave Wilson accepted the Ruling of the House.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

#### INTERIM CLERGY

**MOTION: Mrs. Jean Round/Mr. Richard Taylor THAT Diocesan Synod give interim clergy a vote at Diocesan Synods during the parish appointment.**

Chancellor Robert Welch spoke to the motion. This would involve a Canon change and

suggested that the motion be referred to the Chancellor and the Director of Interim Ministry.

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Very Reverend Peter Wall  
THAT this motion be referred to the Chancellor, Robert  
Welch, the Director of Interim Ministry and Synod Council.  
CARRIED.**

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SETTLEMENT FUND

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning/  
The Reverend Canon Nissa Basbaum  
THAT this Synod directs the Diocesan Treasurer to;  
1) Pursue all parishes including those which did not  
sign covenants to collect their fair share of the  
Residential School Settlement Fund, in order that all  
over payments by parishes benefit native people and;  
2) To report back to this Synod next year.  
CARRIED.**

BISHOP'S ASSENT

ASSENT

Bishop Spence gave his assent to all actions of the Synod.

The Venerable Marion Vincett led in the closing worship.

Bishop Michael Bird closed the session with the blessing and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was prorogued at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Carol Summers, Honorary Lay Secretary

The Reverend Ian Chadwick, Honorary Clerical Secretary

## 2008 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice has been received from members that they will move, or cause to be moved, the following resolutions.

### **1. Credentials Committee Report**

*MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
'that the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.'

### **2. Election of Synod Secretaries**

*MOTION: The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch*  
'that the Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick and Mrs. Carol Summers be the Honorary Secretaries of Synod at the sessions of this Synod.'

### **3. Minutes of the 2007 Synod**

*MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers*  
'that the minutes of the 2007 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Session of Synod, as found on pages 6 through 13 of this Convening Circular be now approved.'

### **4. Adoption of the Agenda**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
'that the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be adopted.'

### **5. Reception of All Reports**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
'that all reports found in the Convening Circular and obtained at registration be received.'

### **6. Trinity College Corporation**

*MOTION: The Venerable Michael Patterson/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
'that the representatives from the Diocese of Niagara to the Corporation of Trinity College be Mr. Ross Gillett, Mrs. Margaret Reid, Mr. Robert Reid (lay) for a term of two years and the Reverend Owen Ash and the Reverend Cheryl Fricker (clergy) for a term of two years.'

(Please note: the Reverend Joe Asselin (clergy), is a continuing members of the Corporation of Trinity College.

### **7. Synod Council Election (nominations sheet handout)**

*MOTION: The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch*  
'that this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members for the 2009-2010 term, as outlined on the nominations sheet, found on page 117 of this Convening Circular.'

## **2008 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION (continued)**

### **8. Synod Council**

*MOTION: The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch*  
‘that the Synod Council Report, having been fully considered, be now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and documents entered into and signed on Synod’s behalf since the last session of Synod, be hereby ratified and confirmed.’

### **9. 2007 Audited Financial Statements**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell*  
‘that the audited financial statements for 2007, as found on pages 47 through 56, be accepted.’

### **10. Auditor’s Report**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell*  
‘that the Auditor's Report, as found on page 46 be accepted.’

### **11. Appointment Of Auditors**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell*  
‘that KPMG be appointed as auditors for fiscal year 2008.’

### **12. Canonical Changes see page 5**

### **13. 2009 Budget**

*MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell*  
‘that this Synod approve the 2009 proposed budget.’



CANONICAL CHANGES

**Canon 1.1(4) Composition of Synod**

*MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
‘that Canon 1.1(4) be amended to read, “Superannuated clergy shall be entitled to a seat on the floor of the Synod, and shall have a right to take part in discussion, but shall not be entitled to vote, provided that this section shall have no effect on any clergy holding a bishop’s license for ministry.”’

**Canon 1.2(5) Credentials Committee**

*MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*  
‘that Canon 1.2(5) be amended to read, “A Committee of two, to be appointed by the Bishop, shall meet at least five days before the meeting of Synod, to examine the credentials of Representatives, and shall prepare a report thereon, to be placed in the hands of the Honorary Lay Secretary on the opening of Synod.”’

## **REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE**

This Committee operates under Canon 4.6.1 as approved by Synod in 1998 and under the direction of the Bishop. As the name implies an Inspection is carried out every ten years; but an Inspection is also to be done before any new construction, alterations or additions to existing Parish facilities are started.

13 Inspections of diocesan property were scheduled for 2007 - 2008. Of these, the following three Parishes are to be congratulated on completing their Inspections as of the date of writing:

Christ Church, Flamborough  
Holy Trinity, Fonthill  
St. Paul's, Port Robinson

For various reasons the Inspection scheduled for four parishes have been postponed until 2009. It is expected that the remaining six Inspections will be completed before the end of the year. The summer is always a busy time for inspectors because of seasonal activity in the housing market.

The Inspection Program was initiated in 2000. The schedule of Inspections for 2009 will be full in order to reach the goal of having every property in the Diocese inspected within the initial ten years. After that the second cycle of Inspections will start, which should be simpler for both parishes and inspectors with the help of the initial report.

During the year the committee revised the Terms of Reference for inspections and re-issued it. A Model Property Maintenance Program together with a Checklist has been drafted for review with the Regional Archdeacons shortly.

My thanks and appreciation go to the committee for 2007-2008; Mr. David Ricketts, Mr. Bill Holman and Mr Ralph Crysler, and to Mrs. Karen Nowicki in the Cathedral office whose tireless and timely work facilitates the smooth and effective operation of the committee. At present we have three pre-qualified Inspectors on the roster; one has indicated his intention to resign in the near future; but three new Inspectors are expected to join the team before the 2009 program begins.

### **Committee Members**

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Bill Holman

Mr. Mr. Ralph Crysler

The Venerable Michael Patterson, Ex-officio

Mr. Christopher Walker, Chair

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Christopher Walker, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS**

The members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings continue to work behind the scenes on many building issues of various kinds.

There is firstly the general advisory capacity of this committee so that parishes can call to the Diocesan Office and receive a referral to a member who has the specific skills needed to help a parish solve a problem. In this area of our work the following parishes have benefited from such advice:

St. Aidan's, Oakville  
St. Paul's, Caledonia  
Grace Church, Hamilton  
Church of Our Saviour the Redeemer, Stoney Creek  
Holy Trinity, Hamilton  
St. James and St. Brendan, Port Colborne

Secondly, many of our church complexes are not accessible to handicapped or disabled parishioners and often the calls are for advice in how to achieve accessibility within an often complicated and multi-level building. Advice of this nature has been offered to:

St. John's, York  
St. John's, Burlington  
St. Philip's, Grimsby  
St. Stephen's, Hornby  
St. Mark's, Orangeville

A third kind of advice offered by this group relates to new construction. While there is nothing actively going on in the Diocese in brand new construction at present we have assisted with:

St. Mark's, Orangeville  
St. Luke's, Palermo

There is a full description of the resources offered by this committee and of diocesan requirements around new construction projects on the diocesan website under "Resources - Church Buildings Committee" or you can call Karen Nowicki or the Executive Officer to access assistance directly.

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers and especially to Karen Nowicki who is usually the first contact for parish members with this group.

### **Committee members**

Ms. Brenda Brownlee	Mr. Ken Schroeder (2008)
The Reverend Ian Chadwick (2008)	Mr. Roy Shoalts
The Reverend St. Clair Cleveland	Mr. Dan Tregunno
Mr. Robert Cox	Mr. Christopher Walker (Chair of BDIC)
Mr. William Filer	The Reverend Susan Wells
Mr. Don Hicks	The Venerable Michael Patterson, Chair
Mr. John Layfield	Right Reverend Michael Bird, Ex-Officio
Mr. David Ricketts	

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee  
The Reverend Susan Wells  
Mr. David Ricketts

## **REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S TASK FORCE FOR A SAFE CHURCH**

### **FOCUS:**

This group continues to expand our work in offering resources for the entire church to be a safer, more just place. Those who serve on this team work at providing basic education in the prevention of misconduct. Some of our team members are especially trained in responding to situations where misconduct is alleged to have taken place. It should be noticed that increasingly there is a connection between the work of this task force and the efforts of the Volunteer Screening and Development Group, under the excellent guidance of Joyce Wilton, as we work together to create a safer, healthier church environment.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

Our primary activity continues to be the provision of basic orientation the policy *Sexual Misconduct Policy: Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Assault 2000* which currently governs clergy and lay workers licensed for professional ministry within the Diocese. Our training extends far beyond acquainting people with the policy *per se* and deals beyond that to help individuals identify circumstances, behaviors and practices which create the potential for unwholesome interactions to occur. This year, in our two basic orientation training sessions, we trained over 30 clergy and lay people.

We exist as well, to respond to, (and at the Bishop's invitation investigate ) situations where there is a concern that misconduct may have taken place and where individuals have felt that because of something specific, that the church is not a "safe place" for them.

Members of the committee are also available for parishes, deanery groups and Clericus group both to educate people around the nature of harassment, abuse and the misuse of power. In such settings, we assist people in understanding the policy as it currently exists. In the past year, I personally visited two Clericus groups to provide Safe Church training.

The creation of a "safer church" is of concern in denominations throughout the world. The Church of England, for example has just published a paper on bullying, entitled *Dignity at Work*. Resources such as this from throughout the world are being included as we continue to redevelop Niagara's current policy in concert with the national church, other Dioceses and other denominations.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

This committee includes clergy, pastoral specialists, lawyers and professionals with counseling and child welfare expertise.

This year, we said farewell to two of our long time members, the Right Reverend D. Ralph Spence, retired Bishop of Niagara and Canon David Long, who up until his retirement served as the Diocesan Director of Human Resources including serving as staff liaison for this committee. We are pleased to welcome to our midst, Bishop Michael Bird, our new Diocesan Bishop and have appreciated his support and guidance in the tasks that are before us.

**REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S TASK FORCE FOR A SAFE CHURCH (continued)**

Members:

The Rt. Reverend Michael Bird  
The Rt. Reverend Ralph Spence (retired)  
Mr. Graeme Leach  
Canon David Long (retired)

The Reverend Rod McDowell, Deacon  
Canon Marni Nancekivell (Chair)  
The Venerable Jim Sandilands  
Ms. Joyce Wilton

Respectfully submitted,  
Canon Marni Nancekivell, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL**

This report summarizes the actions of the Synod Council from the November 2007 Synod to the Synod Council meeting of October 14, 2008 inclusive. Nine meetings were convened. Attendance averaged 81%.

### **Membership**

- all changes in membership were in accordance with Canon 1.9 and the election of members and alternate members by Synod in November 2007

### **Election and Appointments**

- authorized the following at signing officers: The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Diocesan Bishop; The Reverend Canon Michael Patterson, Executive Officer; The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod; Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer; The Very Reverend Peter Wall, Dean; Ms. Debbie Young, Assistant Treasurer
- required that the signature of one of the following must appear on cheques: the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, or the Executive Officer
- elected members of the Financial Advisory Committee for 2008 as follows: The Reverend Owen Ash, Mrs. Judy Conning, Mr. Stan Hatcher, The Reverend Darcey Lazerte, Mr. Tom Poirier, Mr. David Ricketts, Mr. Fred Roach, Mr. Peter Swire, Mr. David Watson
- elected members of the Audit Committee for 2008 as follows: Mr. Gord Archbell, Mr. Ed Crighton, Mr. Gerald Jenkins, Mr. Jim Newman, Mr. David Page, Mr. Ian Smith, Mr. Peter Swire, Mr. Seymour Wigle
- elected Mr. Jim Sweetlove as President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected Mr. Andrew Bucknall as Vice-President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected members of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation as follows: Mr. Seymour Wigle (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mrs. Joyce Frank (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. Andrew Bucknall (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. James Sweetlove (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. Gord Archbell (Jan. 2008 - 2011), The Venerable Lynne Corfield (Jan. 2008 - 2011), Archdeacon Bob Leckey (Bishop's Appointee 2008)
- appointed KPMG auditors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara for fiscal year 2007
- appointed a committee by the Bishop to review and update all diocesan mandates to reflect a new strategic plan and the work of that committee
- elected the following to serve as the Synod Council Coordinating Team: Patricia Davis, Dianne Distler, George Henry, Russell Kelk, John Palmer
- reappointed Mr. Bob Tilbury, All Saints, Hamilton and Canon David Pickett for a two year term to the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee
- appointed Mr. Mitch Banks and Ian Pratt for a two-year term, effective March 1, 2008, to the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee
- approved that the appointed Greening Niagara Ad-Hoc Committee report to Synod Council
- appointed Mr. Paul Clifford to the Jamesville Day Care Board for a two-year term, effective April 15, 2008
- re-appointed the Regional Archdeacon of Brock as the Diocesan Administrator of All Saints Mission, Niagara Falls for 2008

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)**

### **Election and Appointments (continued)**

- appointed the Synod Council Coordinating Team to be the Provincial Synod Nominations Committee and approved the process for Provincial Synod nominations
- approved one-year License Agreements for St Paul's, Hamilton
- approved one-year License Agreements for St. John's, Ancaster
- approved St. Christopher's, Burlington to enter into site use agreements under the terms of the Parish Licensing Agreement, with user groups for the terms specified
- approved a Long Term Licensing Agreement for St. Alban's, Beamsville

### **Policy Matters**

- accepted the recommendations of the Financial Advisory Committee on clergy housing, as outlined in the report to Synod Council dated November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007
  - 1) That, on a relocation requiring a change in housing, the housing allowance reflects the current fair market value for a single family house of approximately 1,700 sq. ft. consisting of three bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, living room, office area, at least one bathroom and full basement, within 15 kilometers of the church
  - 2) That the parish Wardens, in conjunction with the Bishop and the Diocesan Treasurer, assist the relocating clergy in obtaining suitable housing
- approved that the Regional Archdeacon or an Officer of Synod, along with the Corporation of a Parish, be the persons to list and sell any established property in the Diocese of Niagara
- considered changes to Canon 1.1(4) Composition of Synod and Canon 1.2(5) Credentials Committee
- adopted the Greening Niagara Committee Mandate for the Diocese of Niagara

### **Parish and Property Matters**

- ratified the disestablishment of St. Mark's, Louth on January 13, 2008
- approved the sale of the rectory at 41 Church Street West, Elora for \$350,000 to Mary Janet Young to close on March 14, 2008
- approved the sale of St. Brendan, Port Colborne to Mark Stephenson for \$275,000, conditional upon financing by the purchaser until May 9<sup>th</sup>, to close on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- approved the sale of Grace Church, Hamilton to Christ Choice Spiritual Church for \$350,000, conditional upon the following by the purchaser; inspection of property, arranging insurance, solicitor approval until May 12<sup>th</sup>, to close on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and approved the Diocese of Niagara taking back a first mortgage for \$340,000 at an interest rate of 5% per annum plus \$500 principle payment per month for a period of 5 years, with the restriction that no major structural changes can be done to the property within this time
- authorized St. John's, Burlington to enter into a lease agreement with the Province's Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC), Halton Region for their lands adjacent east and south of the church property effective May 6, 2008 for a period of 5 years at an annual rental of \$100 per year
- approved the offer to enter into the redevelopment of All Saints, Hamilton with Options for Homes in the joint venture outlined in the presentation and the offer presented

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)**

- approved St. Luke's, Palermo to continue the conversation and explore options with Versa Care

### **Financial Matters**

- accepted the recommendation of the Compensation Sub-Committee to increase the Interim and Supply pay scales by 2.2% effective January 1, 2008
- approved that the Diocese of Niagara WSIB (Workers Safety Insurance Board) Coverage be adopted by all parishes by January 1, 2008
- accepted the recommendation by the Financial Advisory Committee to ensure that the value of rectory funds grow at least at the inflationary rate. This policy is found in the Rectory Fund Policy document dated November 27, 2007
- approved that the Continuing Education Plan employee amount remain at \$600 to be paid by the salary source
- approved that Synod Council make a strong recommendation to the Continuing Education Plan for the employee to be reimbursed 100%
- approved the request from St. Mark's, Orangeville to borrow \$150,000 from its Rectory Fund for Capital projects
- approved the request from St. James & St. Brendan's, Port Colborne to borrow \$160,000 from its Rectory Fund for Capital projects
- approved the request from Holy Trinity, Niagara Falls to borrow up to \$50,000 from its Rectory Fund for Capital projects
- approved St. John's Church of the Dunn Parish, Dunnville reducing their insurance coverage to demolition value
- authorizes the Treasurer to borrow funds up to \$250,000 from unrestricted investments to cover short term operating cash flow for the period including up to October 14, 2008
- referred the report from the Diocesan Treasurer & CFO to Senior Management and the Financial Advisory Committee and that a report be received by Synod Council on October 14, 2008
- approved that no further DM&M be charged to the remaining parishes after the date that the break away congregations left
- accepted the recommendations from the Financial Advisory Committee as of January 1, 2008, for a period of one year with regard the Christ's Church Cathedral Financial Report. These recommendations cover \$135,500 of the required \$175,000 projected deficit. The remaining \$40,000 would need to be covered by the Cathedral
- included unrecognized rectory funds as available diocesan funds but maintain their distinct classification as proceeds from the sale of rectories
- approved the transfer \$425,000 from this fund into the General Operating Fund
- recommended to Synod to require mandatory participation in the payroll PAP plan from all parishes and to authorize Archdeacons to intervene and assist those parishes that are unable to participate in this plan commencing January 1, 2009
- acknowledged that All Saint's, Niagara Falls mortgage maturity proceeds are being deposited in the Diocesan bank operating account
- approved an electronic poll to be conducted if Diocesan Investment Funds held in participation Units are required to assist with cash flow needs
- received the 2009 Proposed Budget



## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)**

- accepted the recommendation from the Compensation Sub-Committee to increase all pay grades on a minimum stipend scale established for parish clergy by 3.5% and on existing clergy housing allowances
- accepted the recommendation from the Compensation Sub-Committee of a minimum 3.5% increase for all lay employees

### **Other**

- ratified the legal actions of the Bishop and diocesan leaders with respect to St. George's, Lowville, St. Hilda's, Oakville, and the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines
- authorized the Bishop and Secretary of Synod to take the legal actions required to confirm our ownership of those properties
- Authorized that the following motion, carried unanimously at the January 22, 2008 meeting of Synod Council, be recorded in the April 1, 2008 minutes of Synod Council;  

    THAT this Synod Council, having determined that there is a situation requiring this, authorizes the appointment of an administrator for any Parish of this Diocese that shows an intention of joining the Anglican Network in Canada (Southern Cone), subject to an electronic poll of members of Synod Council being conducted specifically approving such an appointment for any specific Parish, all pursuant to section 7 of Canon 4.5
- approved that the Diocesan Administrators, the Reverend Canon Dr. Brian Ruttan, St. Hilda's, Oakville; the Reverend Susan Wells, St. George's, Lowville; the Venerable Bruce McPetrie, Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines; pursuant to Canon 4.5, Section 7, terms be extended until December 31, 2008, subject to review by the Bishop and Executive Officer
- approved the Reverend Martha Tatarnic replace the Reverend Canon Dr. Brian Ruttan, as the Diocesan Administrator at St. Hilda's Anglican Church, Oakville effective September 15, 2008 until December 31, 2008; pursuant to Canon 4.5, Section 7, subject to review by the Bishop and Executive Officer

Respectfully submitted,  
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones,  
Secretary of Synod  
Mrs. Karen Nowicki,  
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod

## **REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The task of the Mission Strategy and Planning Committee is to provide advice to the Bishop and Synod Council, management staff and parishes on strategic issues and planning for the future. In this year we bid farewell to the Venerable Marion Vincett as staff support to our committee and welcomed the Venerable Michael Patterson and Andy Kalbfleisch. We have also benefited by planning participation from our new Bishop Michael and his vision for the work of the committee. More will be said about this later in the report.

This past year we have worked with many parishes and projects. Notable among them were the following:

- The Mission of All Saints Niagara Falls, after a long process of discernment this Mission was discontinued by Synod Council on the recommendation of the committee and the Diocesan Administrator.
- On a brighter note, All Saints, Hamilton, which had been looking for new possibilities for their ministry in downtown Hamilton, has just entered into a joint venture with Options for Homes. Under the terms of this arrangement the parish will sell the property to Options for Homes to develop affordable condominium housing and retain worship and programme facilities within the new high rise building that is being developed. This project is an example of a parish looking to the future in strategic and creative ways. This project was championed and facilitated by the Venerable Marion Vincett and the committee with the strong support of the Corporation and people of All Saints, Hamilton.
- Other creative projects are underway at St. Luke's, Palermo as they look to sell and redevelop property in partnership with the diocese and other parties.
- St. John's, Burlington is creating new visibility and revenue opportunities by leasing government forest land adjacent to the property and creating St. John's Wood, a park and possible "festival" venue. This is in addition to tackling the accessibility issues of an historic church building.
- St. Aidan's, Oakville is working to develop a project in cooperation with community partners, St. Jude's, Oakville and the diocese. Called the Lindisfarne Project, it is an extension of the social justice and community outreach of the parish.

In these and many other projects, the committee works with the parishes to bring reasonable proposals to Synod Council.

The committee continues to monitor and work with the leaders of the newly amalgamated parishes and reflect on what we can learn as a diocese from their challenges and successes. Many parishes need to develop ministry plans for their specific parish context. The committee responds to requests to lead parish planning days. These consulting events are designed in collaboration with local parishes and may include elements such as history reviews, appreciative inquiry, demographic and physical and programme resources reviews. While most mission is local, the committee is also beginning to look at regional mission opportunities and facilitating conversations among parishes around common opportunities. We continue to encourage and support ministry experiments such as the Hamilton Mountain Ministry and seek to foster partnerships between parishes such as St. Aidan's and St. Jude's, Oakville to enable new ministry.

**REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE (continued)**

Bishop Michael brings to the committee a passion for excellence in ministry and the committee is working with Canon Marni Nancekivell, Director of Transitional Ministries and Fresh Start to develop a Ministry Covenanting Process. This process would help parishes to prepare for new incumbent ministry by responding to questions about their ministry context and developing strategic directions for parish mission. These goals and objectives would form the basis of a ministry plan for the new incumbent and parish leaders. In this way a new partnership in ministry could be created between the Bishop and Synod, and the local parish leadership from the start of a new incumbency. Other issues that the committee continues to study are Church Planting and Fresh Expressions.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Chair

The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Chair  
Bishop Michael Bird  
Mr. Bill Connor  
Ms. Catherine Cumming  
Reverend Marcus Germaine  
Reverend Canon Robin Graves  
The Venerable Dr. Steve Hopkins

Mr. Andy Kalbfleisch  
Mr. Bob McKinnell  
Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray  
Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell  
The Venerable Michael Patterson  
Reverend John Ripley  
Ms. Jane Wyse, Scribe

## **REPORT OF THE FINANCE/BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

(This Subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

*The Finance/Budget Subcommittee oversees the preparation of the diocesan budget and monitors diocesan financial operations, including parish loans, loan guarantees, and debt repayment plans.*

*At regular meetings, the subcommittee reviewed statements provided by the Treasurer and ensured that reasonable explanations were provided for both positive and negative variances to the budgeted amounts. Church extension loans, loans payable, and parish receivables for payroll and DMM are also reviewed at each meeting.*

This has been a challenging year for this committee.

With the change in Bishop and Executive Officer early this year, our committee had hoped to be able to prepare and present a fresh and creative 2009 budget to Synod, based upon a new vision for our diocese. Understandably, our new leadership team has needed some time to become established, articulate a vision, and provide us with direction. It soon became evident that we would not be able to create such a budget this year.

In the Spring, we considered bringing forward a 'status quo' budget for 2009, with the caveat that by 2010 we would be ready to produce something more innovative. However, we became aware that a 'status quo' budget would have resulted in a projected shortfall of \$27,000.

In addition, we became aware of other serious financial concerns in the Diocese: an increasing Cathedral deficit (and proposed reallocation of Cathedral Place costs to the Diocese), the loss of three parishes in the Diocese (with a combined DMM assessment of approximately \$133,000), Personnel Transition and Severance costs that are considerably higher than budgeted for, ongoing (and in some cases, substantial and increasing) historic parish receivables.

As a result, in a June meeting with the Bishop and other financial leaders, it was agreed that we would not present a budget at this Synod. Instead, the Synod discussion would focus on Bishop Bird's vision for our diocese and priority setting based on that. Following Synod, our committee would prepare a budget to be presented early in the new year.

In mid-September, we received a request that we prepare a budget for November after all. This is currently underway but not complete at the time of writing this report.

Our committee is indebted to Judy Conning, O.N. who retired as Chair of the Budget Sub-Committee last December. Judy's outstanding leadership of our group, including her brilliant narrative budget presentations, were gifts to our members and the whole diocese. We are also grateful to Chris McMaster, Ian Pratt, John Saylor and Shirley Sherwin who have retired/resigned from this committee this year; we are pleased to have welcomed Andrew Clinkard and Ian Smith as new members. We thank our current members for their time and care for our ministry of finance in Niagara. We would like to express our profound gratitude to Bob McKinnell, Treasurer and CFO of the Diocese. Bob's acuity, diligence, and skill are invaluable in our work.

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE/BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE (continued)**

Committee Members

Cathie Crawford Browning  
Andrew Clinkard  
Wendy Duncan  
David Eccles  
Rob Fead

Robert McKinnell  
Michael Patterson (ex officio)  
Maureen Peddle  
Ian Smith  
David Watson

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. David Watson  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning  
Co-Chairs

## **REPORT OF THE INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

(This subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

This subcommittee of the Financial Advisory Committee advises the Diocese of Niagara and its Parishes through the Financial Advisory Committee regarding Insurance and Risk Management.

The program of professional appraisals of the church owned properties is ongoing. During the past year, the insurance building inspection program has been continued by the Diocesan Insurance Broker, David Ricketts. Churches and church properties at all of the church locations have been inspected in the 1997 to date.

A manual on Church Insurance and Risk Management has been prepared by our broker and is available to each parish through the web in the password protected area accessible to Rectors, Wardens and Treasurers. We strongly encourage that this essential document be made available to new Wardens to help with their duties and responsibilities especially regarding their responsibilities for Liability and Money Handling issues.

The subcommittee carried out its annual review of the Synod's policies, with our broker's assistance. All insurance companies are finding it difficult to assess risk. In this Diocese, because of the measures we have taken over the past 15 years. i.e. the program of church appraisals and inspections done by our broker, we find that there is some rate stability. Indeed this year we were able to lower the ratings on all parishes slightly. We are still faced with the continual challenges regarding insurance companies that will entertain our class of risk. It does not help to have a couple of major losses when we go seeking quotes from other companies. Losses over the past ten years have exceeded premiums. Often we think that only property claims are paid but claims under our liability coverage have increased also. Even if a liability claim is not paid there are lawyers fees, etc.

The new User Group Insurance program is going well for the folks that rent space in parish properties. This is a mandatory program throughout parishes in the Diocese and further information is available on the Diocesan website.

Insurance is a very complex commodity and again, I want to again thank our broker, David Ricketts. David keeps on top of changes in the market place and advises the committee and the FAC. As a member of General and Provincial Synod, he is often sought to advise other dioceses on insurance issues. He is available to assist, at any time, any parish with their questions.

Our Insurance Administrator, Kim Waltmann, is the cheerful voice at the Diocesan Resource Centre to assist you on a daily basis as well.

During the past year, we said a fond farewell to Murray Rathbone, who has been the Chair of this sub-committee for countless years. We are indebted to kindly shepherding of our tasks through some of the more challenged periods in the insurance arena.

Also, at our last meeting, we said goodbye to another long service member, Russell Moodie.

**REPORT OF THE INSURANCE AND  
RISK MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (continue)**

We welcomed five new members to the sub-committee this past year. Their collective insurance experience and knowledge will be a great asset as we deliberate policy options.

Many thanks go to the members of the subcommittee:

Neil Groombridge

Tim Burch

Violet Whitehouse

Brian Castle

Kathryn Anderson

Brent Davis

Linda Daniels-Smith

Kim Waltmann (Administrator/Secretary)

Bob McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Peter Swire, Chair

## 2008 DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

### **Representatives from Regions**

Mrs. Patricia Davis	Brock
The Reverend George Henry, Deacon	Brock
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	Brock
Mrs. Susan Pulleyblank	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller	Greater Wellington
The Venerable Thomas Greene (to June 2008)	Greater Wellington
The Venerable Stephen Witcher (from September 2008)	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Dorothy Hewlett	Lincoln
Mr. John Palmer	Lincoln
The Venerable Bruce McPetrie	Lincoln
The Reverend Canon David Pickett	Mohawk
Mr. Jim Morgan	Mohawk
The Venerable James Sandilands	Mohawk
The Reverend Suzanne Craven	Trafalgar
Mr. Mitch Banks	Trafalgar
The Venerable Stephen Hopkins	Trafalgar
Mr. Paul Clifford	Undermount
Mr. Russell Kelk	Undermount
The Venerable Richard Jones (from September 2008)	Undermount

### **Representatives of Divisions of Ministry**

The Reverend Dianne Distler	Congregational Support
Ms. Sharon White	Ministry Support
The Reverend Jean Ruttan-Yates, Deacon	Outreach

### **Canterbury Hills Representative**

Mrs. Nancy Miller

### **Financial Advisory Committee Representative**

Mr. Peter Swire

### **Bishop's Appointees**

Ms. Cindy Blades  
Mr. Nick Head-Petersen  
Mrs. Beth Kerley  
Mr. Ian Pratt

### **Members by Office**

The Right Reverend Ralph Spence (to February 2008)	Bishop
The Right Reverend Michael Bird (from March 2008)	Bishop
Canon Robert Welch	Chancellor
Mr. Terry Jackman	Vice-Chancellor
The Venerable Marion Vincett (to January 2008)	Executive Officer
The Venerable Michael Patterson (from February 2008)	Executive Officer
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	Dean
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones	Secretary of Synod
Mr. Robert McKinnell	Treasurer



## **REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Stewardship and Financial Development continued parish education with visits to parish councils, stewardship committees and corporations throughout the year. The proven five part Stewardship plan which consists of year-round stewardship, use of the narrative budget, long range parish planning, using the diocesan Pre-Authorized Payment plan and gift planning was presented and promoted during the visits to parishes, in sermons and in articles in the on-line and printed Niagara Anglican.

A new addition to the Stewardship toolbox was created this year. An Income Averaging template and worksheet was made available on the Stewardship section of the diocesan website for downloading. The worksheet is an Excel spreadsheet which compares current income with the previous three years income and creates several charts that can be used by a parish in presentations, bulletins, newsletters and narrative budgets to tell the good news of their current position. The template gives an explanation of how to use the worksheet. By changing the labels on the chart the worksheet could also be used to compare current monthly attendance figures with the previous three years attendance. Any data requiring a comparison to historic data could be entered.

A major study using on-line vestry reports and PAP monthly reports was completed and showed that the average annual gift by individuals in the diocese had increased by over 27% to \$954 from the \$750 reported several years ago. The average annual gift by individuals in the diocese using PAP was calculated as \$1,425.

In addition, the study created reports for each parish showing their average giving and PAP average and rankings compared with other parishes in the diocese. An explanation of the report and suggestions on how to use the data was included with each parish report. Summary reports were created for the Regional Archdeacons. After it was available parish data was used in presentations and sermons during parish visits.

This study showed a number of things, not the least of which is that there are a lot of generous givers in Niagara. It also shows that there is plenty of scope for broadening our base of support. It shows that parishes using the proven five part Stewardship program have giving levels above those parishes that don't, and it shows the advantages to a parish from promoting the use of the diocesan Pre-Authorized Payment plan. Now that the initial legwork has been done, the study should be repeated on a yearly or bi-annual basis.

Association with other Anglican Diocesan Stewardship Directors and our friends in the Lutheran church continues with membership in the Ontario Stewardship Network.

One area that needs further development is the area of gift planning. A revision to the "Planting Mustard Seeds" gift planning document needs to be put into motion. Staff education continued with the attendance of Archdeacon Lynne Corfield and Bob McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer, at a number of workshops at the Canadian Association of Gift Planners annual meeting and conference.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Carl Sneyd  
Director of Stewardship and Financial Development

## **REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)**

The task of the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) is to advise and report to Synod Council and the Bishop on the management and administration of funds and assets held by or under control of the Synod. In addition, the FAC provides advice and recommendations to Synod Council and the Bishop on all financial matters that are to come before council for resolution. The FAC works through both its committee and various sub-committees, a number of which have separate reports included in the Convening Circular, in advising and working with the Diocesan Treasurer and his financial staff and reporting to Synod Council and working with the Bishop.

This past year has been particularly challenging both internally and externally. Internally we said goodbye to our much beloved Bishop of the past 10 years, Ralph Spence and with anticipation welcomed Michael Bird to his new ministry. This change in leadership, while anticipated, has meant that as a committee we needed to learn to work with a new leadership team led by Michael. Bishop Michael is eager to focus on visioning work for the Diocese and this will be an important presentation at this year's fall Synod. It is yet unclear what impact this will have the 2009 budget presentation. Another internal challenge revolves around the ongoing debate over the blessing of same gender unions. To date this has resulted in the loss of many parishioners from three identifiable parishes. In addition, \$133,000 of annual Diocesan Mission & Ministry funds from these parishes has simply disappeared. We continue to have challenges around the cost of funding our Cathedral ministry and this is something that the FAC, along with Synod Council and the Diocesan Executive have worked towards resolving. This continues to have a potential financial impact on the Diocesan budget. The final internal area of concern has been in the area of severance and transition which continues to be significantly over budget. This is of a concern both to us and to the Bishop and it is our understanding that resolving this issue is high on the Bishop's list of priorities. While externally, as most are no doubt aware, we live in uncertain economic times. This began with the sub-prime mortgage crisis and continues till today with uncertainties in the stock market where the diocesan investments are placed. Practically this means that parishes along with the Diocese have not realized any revenue from investments and in some cases have realized a loss on principle.

The result of all of this uncertainty has led to diocesan operating deficits. For 2007 we saw around a \$400,000 shortfall and for 2008 the best estimate is that we will be short \$600,000. This is certainly not a desired state of affairs and has led to unique challenges, when combined with the historic debt amongst many of our parishes, especially in terms of cash flow. The FAC would like to assure the members of Synod that it is working with Synod Council, the Bishop and the Diocesan Executive to address this situation in both the short and the long term. The goal of this work is to respond in two ways. First, to address the cash flow issue that has been accentuated this past year. Second, to make sure we have solid financial fundamentals in place so that we have more flexibility in the future to deal with the uncertainties that are inherent when dealing with finances at this level.

## **REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)**

The members of the FAC for 2008 are:

The Reverend Darcey Lazerte, Chair

The Reverend Owen Ash

Mrs. Judy Conning

Dr. Stan Hatcher

Mr. Tom Poirier

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Fred Roach

Mr. Peter Swire, Synod Council Rep

Mr. Dave Watson

Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer

The Venerable Michael Patterson, ex-officio

Ms. Wendy Duncan, ex-officio

Ms. Heather Sinclair, recorder

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

(This subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

Our Investment Fund, which started in June 1996, has been managed by Frank Russell Canada Limited (Russell) since July 1, 2002. Russell uses a multi-asset, multi-style, multi-manager approach to reduce risk and deliver consistent and superior returns. For our portfolio, they currently employ 26 managers.

The returns, before expenses, for our Russell account are:

6 years ending June 30, 2008:	7.35% p.a. (since inception)
5 years ending June 30, 2008:	9.11% p.a.
1 year ending June 30, 2008:	-2.56%

The current year's return is disappointing but largely reflects the downward movements in all security markets, which began in the second quarter of 2008 and continued into the third quarter.

Russell charges a fee of 52 bps plus GST per year (a basis point (bps) is 0.01%), paid quarterly. Also, the Diocese charges an administrative fee of 50 bps per year, paid monthly. The current total fees are 1.02% per year.

The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara uses a system of participation units through which the Diocese and the participating Parishes share the risks and rewards associated with the investment of their funds. Parishes, who chose to receive a monthly payment, received a 5% cash payout each year up to December 31, 2000 except for 1998 when they received 7.2%. Since January 1, 2001 Parishes have been able to withdraw funds by redeeming units on a monthly basis and this has replaced the cash payout. Since June 30, 1997 unit values have increased from \$10.00 to \$16.53212 as at June 30, 2008.

Present members of the Investment Subcommittee are:

Mr. Andrew Bucknall

Mr. Robert McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)

Mr. David Pady

Mr. Roger Phillips (Chair)

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. David Watson

Mr. Malcolm Williams

Ms. Kim Waltmann (Secretary)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Roger Phillips, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN TREASURER**

As we approach the 2008 fall Synod, this marks the end of my ninth year as your Diocesan Treasurer.

The year end results for 2007 in the General Fund reflect an operating loss of (\$431,998) after depreciation of \$110,452. The two major contributing factors were the poor returns on our investments and the high costs associated with Personnel Transition and Severance. As a result of this loss we were unable to generate the necessary funds, from this source, to make our \$115,010 annual debt repayment to the bank. Subsequently, the payment was made through a decrease in our cash position.

During the year we purchased a 1.6 acre undeveloped site adjacent to St. Luke's Palermo. This required an investment of approximately \$850,000. These funds came from Diocesan investments held in the Diocesan Participation Unit portfolio. The land is reflected in the Statement of Financial Position on the asset side in the Capital assets and is included in note 5. The offsetting entry is included in the Unrestricted category under the General Fund. There are 'new church development' funds included in the Restricted Fund which could have been transferred to the General Fund and the Unrestricted deficit would have appeared significantly better. However at the time of the audit, we did not make this transfer because we were expecting to sell the property as our development plans with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada were unsuccessful.

Our Unrestricted deficit deteriorated significantly as we saw it rise from (\$1,263,082) to (\$2,534,469). Both the land purchase as well as the operating loss contributed to this change.

Our Participation Unit investment with the Russell Investment Group performed quite poorly this past year. Unit values rose marginally from \$16.83671 to \$16.95926 during calendar 2007. This increase represents an approximate 0.73% rate of return.

Year-to-date financial operating results for 2008 indicate a potential loss of approximately \$600,000. There are several contributing factors, not all of which are under our control. The major contributing factors include; lost DM&M income from the breakaway parishes, negative investment returns, unbudgeted increase to Diocesan share of Cathedral Place operating costs, and over budget spending in Personnel Transition and Severance.

As mentioned previously, our Synod long term debt continues to reduce at the rate of \$115,010 per year. We are committed to this repayment plan for quite a few years to come. It is encouraging to note that CIBC, our banker, has not expressed any concern with our overall performance for 2007 and no changes have been made to the Synod's bank operating line.

The 2009 proposed budget, as presented, is a balanced budget and any changes are identified in the budget notes. No provision has been made for any costs related to the Bishop's vision or to address the Cathedral deficit. There has been concern for a number of years with the division of property costs at Cathedral Place. Synod Council agreed to an increased Diocesan share of the operating costs for 2008 while the Cathedral Place operating structure is reviewed. This review is necessary because the projected loss for the Cathedral, over the next five years, cumulatively exceeds one million dollars.

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN TREASURER (continued)**

The most significant challenge currently facing our Diocese is maintaining an adequate cash flow. Operating losses, poor investment returns and costs associated with the breakaway parishes have seriously impacted our current cash position. The mandatory PAP parish payroll plan, approved by Synod Council on October 14<sup>th</sup>, will help to ensure the availability of sufficient funds to meet Diocesan payroll.

We will be challenged in the years to come by a loss of DM&M revenue. However, we anticipate the high costs associated with Personnel Transition & Severance to subside as we have responded to pressing transitional needs at a number of parishes. We will need to ensure we have the necessary funds to repay our Synod bank loans and reduce our Fund Balance deficit.

On a positive note the Financial Advisory Committee, the various Sub-Committees of the FAC and the Audit Committee deserve our thanks for their diligent work over the past year. Their efforts have proved invaluable to me in the carrying out of my responsibilities as Diocesan Treasurer. My personal thanks to the Chairs and members of these various committees for the time they have given to the Diocese and for their collective insight. Also a heartfelt thanks to everyone that has stepped forward and helped whenever a need arose.

My personal thanks to everyone, at the Synod office, for joining in and helping each other when there was a need. This type of cooperation encourages a team environment and makes for a pleasant workplace.

I would like to give special thanks to the great staff in the Finance area for their hard work, exceptional performance, loyalty and dedication. Thank you Wendy Duncan, Debbie Young, Nancy Clause and Kim Waltmann.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Robert L. McKinnell  
Diocesan Treasurer & CFO

**REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION  
HELD MAY 3, 2008 AT ST. ANDREW'S, GRIMSBY**

**Introduction of:**

Chair	Bill Mous
Chancellor	The Venerable Dr. Stephen Hopkins
MCs	Justin Michael and Emma Smith
Diocesan Program Consultants	Christyn Perkons and Joyce Wilton
Secretary	Jamie Barnes and Brandon Prodger
Youth Synod Coordinator	Mary Gordon
Youth Synod Council Coordinator	Matthew Griffin
Youth Local Planning Coordinators	Pat Ruggles and The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike

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**Voting Delegates:**

Alicia Archbell**	Brenda-Lee Henry	Hannah Raaflaub
Sam Archbell	Ben Holtam-Prodger	Nathalie Reid
Elliott Armstrong	Rosie Hopkins**	Devin Robbins
Mac Armstrong**	Charlotte Irwin-James	Julianne Rock
Maggie Armstrong	Janine Jackson	Thomas Rolfe
Stuy Armstrong**	Emily Johnson	Evan Rudderham
Nick Arseneau	Hilary Johnston	Matthew Saayman
James Beattie	Danielle Killingbeck	Kyle Samuels
Latish Bechkos	Jasmine Kondracki	Katelyn Schaeffer
Jordyn Bell	Derek La Hay	Erin Shuter
Sarah Bird	Kaitlin Lagerwerf	Ashley Smith**
Amberlee Boulton	John Lehocki	Emma Smith
Logie Bradley	Jess Letman	Andrew Soave
Steff Browning**	Barbara Jean Lick	Katharine Sobschak
Cam Buttrum	Mike Lickers	Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh**
Erin Buttrum	Clair Macaulay-	Dean Sutton-
Victoria Carlson	Newcombe	Greenhalgh**
Lauren Clark	Jay MacKinnon	Bryan Szucs
Jeff Cummings	Tricia Manning	Patrick Taylor
Lenox Daley	Emma Marchand	Kristalyn
Nate Duliban	Christopher McDevitt	Thornborrow
Jenn Evans	Cory McGee	Madison Toth
Kelsey Fedus	Aley Meade	Alex Urquhart
Mat Fisher	Justin Michael**	Zach Vernon
Andrew Garland	David Micks	Monica Volkov
Angela Gibbons	Emily Moar	Rob Warren
Sarah Gibbons	Cam Moffat	Nic Waterman
Nora Gravelle	Allison Mondloch	Will Wells
Billy-Jim Green	Marah Montague**	Pamela Wettlaufer
Eric Greene	Josh Morrison	Diana Wood
Monica Griffin	Charlotte Morrirt-Jacobs	Brock Wootton
Richard Griffin	Graham Nicolls	Dave Wright
Steve Harschnitz	Sarah Noiseux	Ashley Yaworski
Ashley Hatcher	Jeremy Phillips	Sabrina Yott
Karen Haycraft	Carolyn Pugh	Laura Zargi

\*\* Youth Synod Council Members

**REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)**

**Other Adult Observers:**

The Right Reverend Michael Bird	Bishop of Niagara
Lori Bodner	Youth Ministry Volunteer
Carrie Charters	Small Group Leader
Jen Craig	Night Staff
The Reverend Mike Deed	Social Coordinator
The Reverend Dianne Distler	Regional Dean, Undermount
Donna Ellis	Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee
Courtney Evers	Past Youth Synod Coordinator
The Reverend Rob Fead	Regional Dean, Lincoln
Jen Harper	Small Group Leader
Keith Halliwell	Small Group Leader
Laura Harrison	Small Group Leader
Phil Jones	Small Group Leader
The Reverend Kathy Morgan	Regional Dean, Mohawk
The Reverend Stephen Murray	Small Group Leader
Jordan Russell	Small Group Leader
Anna Ryder	Small Group Leader
The Venerable Jim Sandilands	Archdeacon, Mohawk
Sarah Scapinello	Small Group Leader/Youth Ministry Committee
Jane Wyse	Diocesan Staff

**Tech Crew:**

Jamie Barnes and Brandon Prodger

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**Bishop Bird's Charge:**

- The importance of the Youth Synod body in lifting the spirits of the church in a tough time at his installation
- Ensuring we reach out to all in our diocese
- Challenge to all of us amidst these complex times, to read the bible, to learn more about what it means to be an Anglican...foundations and realities of our practices and doctrines
- Blessing

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**Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:**

*“that the observers listed above be granted rights to the floor..”*

The house granted overwhelming consent.

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**1. JOINT ANGLICAN – LUTHERAN AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS:** the United Nations called homelessness in Canada a “national emergency,” and the current Federal Budget leaves 150,000 to 300,000 homeless people in Canada out in the cold, and 1.5 million Canadians in desperate housing need without relief;

**AND WHEREAS:** homelessness and risk of homelessness is a serious but often unrecognized problem for young people under the age of 21;

**AND WHEREAS:** the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada and the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada launched an Affordable Housing Initiative on February 27, 2008 by sending a letter to the Minister of Human Resources and Development Canada, the Rt. Hon. Monte Solberg, requesting the government “address homelessness in Canada as part of a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy”;



## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

**AND WHEREAS:** the joint Anglican–Lutheran initiative takes inspiration from the prophet Isaiah who reminds us what true religious observance is: “Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house?” (Isaiah 58:7), and seeks to go beyond the prophet’s call to create a society where the homeless poor are invited into their own house.

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Delegates to Youth Synod 2008 will sign a letter to the Federal Minister of Human Resources and Social Development that asks the government to take immediate steps towards addressing homelessness across Canada.
2. Delegates will send a letter to their federal Member of Parliament; a sample of which is included in the delegate package along with the MPs’ names.
3. Delegates will learn more about homelessness in their own communities and will encourage their parishes to act in some way to empower the homeless or those at risk of homelessness.
4. Delegates commit to volunteering a minimum of 20 hours over the next year to assist those people in the Diocese of Niagara who are without homes or at risk of homelessness.

Moved by: Stu Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga  
Seconded by: Marah Montague, St. Paul’s, Caledonia

### **Discussion**

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- Twenty (20) hours is only half of what is required for school volunteering
- Belief that this motion, if passed, would have a great impact in communities
- Concern that these motions cannot be enforced
- One-third of the kids under the poverty line are three times as likely to be exposed to crime, 2x as likely to suffer health problems, and prone to abuse
- Question of clarification; what is the consequence if we don’t volunteer for 20 hours

**Unfriendly Amendment:** Delegates commit to volunteering a minimum of 1,000 hours over the next year to assist those people in the diocese of Niagara who are without homes or at risk of homelessness.

Moved by: Stephen Murray, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton  
Seconded by: Matthew Griffin, Christ’s Church Cathedral, Hamilton

### **Discussion**

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- This is too much and unrealistic
- Way over our head
- We need to look at key words in our clause; what does it mean when we “assist”
- Response: As with other Youth Synod motions there will not be direct consequence, but rather as delegates of Youth Synod we have to take it upon ourselves to self govern the actions of motions; example of this is the canned goods drive. Take the time, help those in need, as Anglican it’s our responsibility
- Great opportunity for youth groups to get involved; opportunity for the good works to multiply

**Friendly Amendment for the Amendment:** Delegates commit to volunteering 1,000 hours as a whole participating in their youth groups, over the next year to assist those people in the diocese of Niagara who are without homes or at risk of homelessness

Moved by: Alicia Archbell, St. Elizabeth’s Burlington  
Seconded by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

**Procedural Motion**

*Motion to vote clause-by-clause*

**In Favour: 72**

**Opposed: 22**

**Motion carried.**

**Procedural Motion**

*Motion to refer Clause 3 to Youth Synod Council*

**In Favour: 25**

**Opposed: 68**

**Motion defeated.**

### Discussion

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- Voice from a small youth group states that 1,000 hours is possible for even a couple people

**Procedural Motion**

*Request for the question to be called.*

*Clause 1:* Delegates to Youth Synod 2008 will sign a letter to the Federal Minister of Human Resources and Social Development that asks the government to take immediate steps towards addressing homelessness across Canada.

**In Favour: 95**

**Opposed: 2**

**Clause is carried.**

*Clause 2:* Delegates will send a letter to their federal Member of Parliament; a sample of which is included in the delegate package along with the MPs' names.

**In Favour: 60**

**Opposed: 33**

**Clause is carried.**

*Clause 3:* Delegates will learn more about homelessness in their own communities and will encourage their parishes to act in some way to empower the homeless or those at risk of homelessness.

**In Favour: 76**

**Opposed: 18**

**Clause is carried.**

*Clause 4:* Delegates commit to volunteering a minimum of 20 hours over the next year to assist those people in the Diocese of Niagara who are without homes or at risk of homelessness.

**In Favour: 61**

**Opposed: 35**

**Clause is carried.**

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## 2. CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

**WHEREAS:** Global warming is an observable increase in the average temperature of the Earth. This increase in global temperatures can cause rising sea levels and changes in the amount and patterns of precipitation, which in turn will cause devastating effects on the life of the planet and its inhabitants;

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

**AND WHEREAS:** A carbon footprint is a measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of green house gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide;

**AND WHEREAS:** A carbon footprint is meant to be useful for individuals and organizations to conceptualize their personal (or organizational) impact in contributing to global warming. As our carbon footprints grow, so does the catastrophic damage we are inflicting upon the Earth;

**AND WHEREAS:** Youth Synods in previous years have made concerted efforts to condemn and act against Global Warming, because of our deep-rooted concern for eco-justice;

**AND WHEREAS:** Delegates of Youth Synod 2008 should be helping stop the behaviours that cause Global Warming.

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Youth Synod calls upon the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to reduce the carbon footprint of all youth ministry events by enabling effective car-pooling to all events.
2. Youth Synod calls upon the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to begin including in its budgets necessary amounts to support carbon-offsetting programs for all youth-ministry activities.
3. Delegates of Youth Synod report to Youth Synod their parishes' efforts in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and that we continue to be setting and achieving realistic goals in the effort to help and to maintain the environment.
4. Delegates will advocate to their rectors, parish councils, and/or parish vestry meetings for the creation of on-going greening groups within their parishes (with those groups including at least one youth member of each parish).
5. Delegates will calculate their own carbon footprints and take steps in the next year to reduce their carbon footprints by 15%.

Moved by: Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias, Guelph

### **Discussion**

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- Follow up to the global warming motion from the previous year, and to support the motion made at Synod
- We the youth are the future, and thus we need to make a difference today
- Keep pushing forward
- Inspires and offers a way to make it accomplishable
- Point of clarification; Clause 1 and 2, wondering how plausible this is for the committee to do
- Motion forwarder is not imposing anything; looking for assistance from the respective committees
- It's very simple to carpool and to take the bus
- We need to watch that we don't fall into the pitfall of trendy environmentalism; that said a belief that this motion is very possible

**Friendly Amendment:** To demonstrate their contribution to carbon reduction, Youth Synod will present a tree to each host church to youth synod following this year as a thank-you gift and dedication to environmental awareness.

Moved by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Josh Morrison, Church of the Ascension, Hamilton

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

### Discussion

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- We need to do this to stay alive.
- We could use less paper too; comment on the massive amount of paper being used at these events
- Don't know why we're trying to add more global warming initiatives as a lot of them aren't actually happening
- Challenge as we leave Youth Synod to actually go further
- Echo awareness is significant, as once you know your footprint, you can take active steps to affect and reduce it!
- If you want the earth to live for ever; we need to take this up
- "We inherit the world from our parents, but we're in it for our grand children"
- Christyn responding to question about receiving paper copies of minutes: you will **not** be receiving paper copies of the minutes; going to get them with email.
- Diocese does NOT use recycled paper, suggestion,
- Rob Fead will pay for the tree for St. Andrews this year if it's passed
- Not everyone can do everything, but everyone can do something

**In Favour: 95**

**Opposed: 4**

**Motion is carried.**

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### 3. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**WHEREAS:** Human Trafficking is transportation of humans for the purpose of exploitation, primarily sexual exploitation;

**AND WHEREAS:** It is estimated that more than 800,000 people are tricked into becoming sex slaves each year. Often, these women, girls, and sometimes men are lured overseas to meet an online boyfriend or are offered good-paying jobs. Sometimes they are kidnapped right from their homes, neighbourhoods or while on vacation;

**AND WHEREAS:** The slaves, mostly women and young girls (as young as five), are raped up to 25 times every day. They are not given any protection from sexually transmitted diseases, infections, or pregnancy. In a case study of Nepalese human trafficking victims, 38% contracted HIV/AIDS;

**AND WHEREAS:** The annual revenue of human trafficking is estimated to be approximately \$9,500,000,000. The consequences for these traffickers can be as little as one to four years in prison and on occasion, a monetary fine.

**AND WHEREAS:** while it is easy to denounce the selling and abuse of human beings as a terrible injustice, we must also remember our call to seek God's reign, and work toward a world in which we do love our neighbours as ourselves in answer to Jesus' call (Matthew 22.37-40).

#### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Youth Synod 2008 condemns the practice of human trafficking worldwide, and delegates will sign the I Am Coming Petition.
2. Delegates will join the I Am Coming.com group on one of the various social networks (e.g. Facebook, myspace, etc.), to support this movement and to investigate ways to apply their various gifts to this cause

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Delegates will pray daily for an end to human trafficking and the safe return and recovery of victims.

Moved by: Rosie Hopkins, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Seconded by: Ashley Smith, St. Christopher's, Burlington

### Discussion

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- Massive life long effects
- This is a travesty of circumstance
- The I Am Coming campaign exists to raise awareness and to raise minimum sentences
- In the room there are 100 people, four of the tables stand up to show the statistics of HIV/AIDS amidst the forced sex workers
- Not about just joining the social network but increasing awareness
- Prayer may sound like a small thing, but it keeps it at front of mind and has a powerful impact
- Comment on Clause 2: so often nothing comes out of the social awareness networks online...

**Friendly Amendment:** Delegates will join the I Am Coming.com group on one of the various social networks (e.g. Facebook, myspace, etc.), as well as raising further awareness by joining or forming an awareness group in their schools or communities, to support this movement and to investigate ways to apply their various gifts to this cause

Moved by: Emma Smith, St. John's, Burlington

Seconded by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias, Guelph

- Much support and applause for the motion
- This issue deals with organized crime; to fight this issue is to assist in helping fight crime...and become a super hero
- The spirit and initiative is great, however it's not going far enough... Frustrated that this is not enough. That we'll only go as joining the website
- If we talk about this issue, taking it beyond the website, then we have a chance to make a difference
- A call to take this information back to your parish... It's the job of all of the youth synod delegates to take this data back to our churches
- This is a local issue; recently there was a local brothel taken down in Hamilton
- Stewardship; Time, Talent, Treasure... Looking at this issue as a form of Stewardship; going online and taking the time to do something
- Question about how to become involved if delegates are NOT involved in facebook or myspace;
- In that case; go to the iamcoming website and youtube to learn more - Google it..
- People who drink and drive get longer sentences than those who traffic humans
- During the time this debate has taken, 15 people were brought into the sex trade.
- Rosie invited friends to the group...who invited other friends...who invited other friends. Viral marketing at its best! Hooray!

**In Favour: 94**

**Opposed: 2**

**Motion is carried.**

### 4. NETWORK PARISHES

**WHEREAS:** the decision of three parishes (St. George's, Lowville; St. Hilda's, Oakville, Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines) to leave the Diocese of Niagara and the Anglican Church of Canada has left many feeling the deep loss of friends and acquaintances;

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

**AND WHEREAS:** this separation has caused both Youth Synod and the Diocese to lose valuable voices and viewpoints that help us to fully discern God's will for our actions;

**AND WHEREAS:** this separation prevents us from being able to connect with friends, new and old.

### BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. We respect the opinions and convictions of those who have chosen to leave, and will remain ready to hear all who challenge us to listen carefully for God's movement in our lives.
2. We stay in contact with our friends, and work to include them in our lives and faith journeys to the best of our abilities.

Moved by: Alicia Archbell, St. Elizabeth's, Burlington

Seconded by: Stu Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

### Discussion

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- This is not about whether or not we agree with the actions of those who have left the Anglican Church, but rather to continue to extend our hands in friendship and dialog
- We're missing people and friends today
- We need to respect the opinions of others
- Suggestion that we can extend invitation to youth from these parishes to youth ministry events

**Friendly Amendment:** Youth Synod 2008 calls upon diocesan youth ministry staff to send the youth from these churches notices involving social events like The Gathering that they are welcome to be involved in; as well as sending invitations for them to return as special guests.

**Moved by:** Emma Smith, St. John's, Burlington

**Seconded by:** Ashley Smith, St. Christopher's, Burlington

**In Favour: 96**

**Opposed: 0**

**Motion is carried.**

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## 5. RECYCLED PAPER

**WHEREAS:** Motions at Youth Synod 2007, 2008 and Diocesan Synod 2007 have focused on reducing carbon footprints and global warming.

**AND WHEREAS:** cutting down trees to produce paper eliminates a source CO2 conversion into oxygen and cleaning the air.

**AND WHEREAS:** Genesis 1:26 says, "And God said, 'and now we will make human beings. They will be like us and resemble us. They will have power over the fish, birds and all animals, domestic or wild, large or small.'"

### BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod requests the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to discuss a motion that all parishes and diocesan ministries would only use recycled paper.
2. All youth ministry events and resources within the diocese only use recycled paper.

**REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)**

3. Youth Synod delegates will only use recycled paper in their home, church and school.

Moved by: Alex Urquhart, St. Paul's, Dunnville  
Seconded by: Ashley Hatcher, St. Paul's, Dunnville

**Unfriendly Amendment:** Youth Synod delegate will (if possible) only use recycled paper in their home, church and school.

Moved by: Trish Manning, St John's, Thorold  
Seconded by: John Lehocki, St. James & St. Brendan's, Port Colborne

**In Favour: 58**

**Opposed: 37**

**Amendment passed.**

**Procedural Motion**

*Call to table the motion.*

**In Favour: 48**

**Opposed: 45**

**Motion carried.**

**Procedural Motion**

*Motion for a revote.*

Moved by: Monica Griffin, St. Alban's, Hamilton  
Seconded by: Mat Fisher, St. John's, Niagara Falls

**In Favour: 65**

**Opposed: 25**

**Motion carried.**

**Procedural Motion**

*Recount of vote for tabling motion.*

**In Favour 42**

**Opposed 52**

**Motion defeated.**

**Procedural Motion**

*Josh Morrison asked that the question be called.*

**In Favour: 94**

**Opposed: 7**

**Motion carried as amended.**

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**6. FOOD JUSTICE**

**WHEREAS:** investigations have concluded that red meat consumption is a significant cause of global warming. Gases from the animals we eat account for nearly a quarter of all emissions worldwide;

**AND WHEREAS:** currently, we in developed countries eat about 224 grams (½ lb.) of meat per day. With the expected world-wide increase in intake of red meat, meat production is expected to double by 2050. Increases in livestock production will mean increased pollution and greenhouse gas emissions;

## **REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)**

**AND WHEREAS:** reducing global red meat consumption by 10% would drastically reduce the methane gases emitted by cows, sheep and goats;

**AND WHEREAS:** the increase in meat consumption also has profoundly negative effects on the poor, because more grains are diverted to feed the animals, driving up the price of grain and making it nearly impossible for low income families to purchase sufficient food for their nutritional needs;

**AND WHEREAS:** prophet Isaiah reminds us that we are to share our bread with the hungry;

**AND WHEREAS:** significant emissions associated with transportation of livestock and meat products make these emissions even worse. Moreover, most of the food we eat is not locally produced. Our demand for out-of-season and tropical foodstuffs results in more fuel being used and more emissions are produced than if we ate locally produced food

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Youth Synod delegates will increase the number of meatless meals they eat each week by three.
2. Youth Synod delegates take action in their church by striving for one major church meal per year that follows the 100-mile diet. This will include, parishes shopping locally, for community meals and using local ingredients for communion.
3. All residential Diocesan Youth Ministry events must have at least one entirely meatless meal.
4. Delegates of Youth Synod 2008 will promote and undertake the initiative to utilize or create a community vegetable garden at their parish.

Moved by: Steff Browning, St. John the Evangelist, Thorold

Seconded by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias, Guelph

### **Discussion**

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- As an advocate for God's world, want to tend to the world. This motion is a continuation of the carbon footprint moment.
- Not suggesting vegetarianism, encouraging a cut back on red meat in support of the environment.
- In addition to environment concerns, there are also food shortage issues that are tied to this (corn, wheat, rice prices have doubled in the past year). This has caused food riots. It takes 8 lbs of grain to make 1lb of meat.
- Exercise showing who would be able to eat amidst the increased costs of food due to meat being a preferred food.
- Belief that this is a very easy way to do good; very achievable.
- Important that we maintain healthy balance
- Putting the world first instead of yourself



**REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)**

**Unfriendly Amendment:** Youth Synod delegates will increase the number of meatless meals to two per day.

**Moved by:** Jordan Russell

**Seconded by:** Angela Gibbons, All Saints, Cheapside

- Alternatives should be okay and easy to fit into ones diet
- Lunch and breakfast are easy to enjoy without meat.
- Three meals a week is a lot for some, and not for others
- If we all cut back on beef consumption, then bigger operators would provide meat at a lower price and would send local producers into an position where they cannot compete or even survive.
- Point of clarification request; what does meatless mean? Answer: Meat here is referring to land animals...Fish would be okay
- For some this would mean not eating meat in a day...this is an issue.
- Opposed to the amendment as it's believed to be contrary to the spirit of the original motion.

**Procedural Motion**

*Request for the question to be called on the amendment.*

**In Favour: 30**

**Opposed: 59**

**Amendment defeated.**

**Discussion**

- God made us to eat meat. He knew what he was doing when he created us.
- We're eating so much meat, it's insane! We're simply talking about downgrading our consumption to historical and normal levels
- Amazing how easy it is to reduce meat from diet.
- Very easy to make a sustainable difference

**Procedural Motion**

*Motion to vote clause by clause.*

*Moved by:* Elliott Armstrong, St. John's, Cayuga

*Seconded by:* Ashley Smith, St. Christopher's, Burlington

**In Favour: 71**

**Opposed: 19**

*Clause 1:* Youth Synod delegates will increase the number of meatless meals they eat each week by three.

**In Favour: 65**

**Opposed: 26**

**Clause carried.**

*Clause 2:* Youth Synod delegates take action in their church by striving for one major church meal per year that follows the 100-mile diet. This will include, parishes shopping locally, for community meals and using local ingredients for communion.

**In Favour: 93**

**Opposed: 2**

**Clause carried.**

*Clause 3:* All residential Diocesan Youth Ministry events must have at least one entirely meatless meal.

**In Favour: 90**

**Opposed: 5**

**Clause carried.**

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

*Clause 4:* Delegates of Youth Synod 2008 will promote and undertake the initiative to utilize or create a community vegetable garden at their parish.

**In Favour: 48**

**Opposed: 44**

Clause carried.

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### 7. OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

**WHEREAS:** we are called, through our baptismal covenants, to respect the dignity of every human being;

**AND WHEREAS:** that respect for the dignity of others translates into a need, in our world, to work for human rights everywhere;

**AND WHEREAS:** China has consistently and flagrantly violated, and continues to violate, the human rights of its citizens. Most recently, these violations have taken the form on violent attacks on those who seek independence for Tibet; rights to religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly, have been trampled upon;

**AND WHEREAS:** the goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play ([http://www.olympic.org/uk/organisation/index\\_uk.asp](http://www.olympic.org/uk/organisation/index_uk.asp));

#### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. YS 2008 condemns the actions of the Chinese government, and calls upon the Chinese government to enshrine and protect the human rights of all its citizens. We will communicate this condemnation and call via letter to the Chinese consulate in Toronto.
2. YS delegates will write to their MPs to request that Canada take a firm stance against human rights abuses in China.
3. YS delegates will boycott the 2008 Olympics, by not attending, nor watching the events on television, nor reading news reports of the Olympics.

Moved by: Stu Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Seconded by: Alicia Archbell, St. Elizabeth's Burlington

#### **Discussion**

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- Review of human rights issues in China
- Question of how watching the Olympics is "supporting Canada",
- This is not about "we're not supporting Canada", it's about we're not supporting China.
- A lot of athletes that work really really hard work...shouldn't be deprived of our support.

**Friendly Amendment:** Youth Synod delegates will boycott the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2008 Olympics, by not attending nor watching the events on television, nor reading news reports of the Olympics.

Moved by: Lennox Daley, All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded by: Emily Johnson, St. Christopher's Burlington

- Hypocritical of Canada to claim human rights when they are violating the rights of aboriginal people
- Hesitant to intervene in how another country runs its affairs
- China is one of Canada's largest trading partners; do we really want to upset them? They are not likely to hear our opinion and let it go.

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

### **Procedural Motion**

*Motion to vote clause by clause.*

Moved by: Evan Rudderham, St. John's, Hamilton

Seconded by: Nick Arseneau, St. Philips, Grimsby

**In Favour: 78**

**Opposed: 10**

**Motion carried.**

### **Discussion**

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- There was a reason Beijing was selected; we shouldn't act surprised now
- Another support reason is for future athletes who are aiming for FUTURE Olympics and should have the ability to see what other athletes are doing now in 2008.
- If there's an argument that Canada is guilty in their own human rights issues, that is a separate issue and should not be applied to this.
- The Olympics will bring to China an economic bump that if we can help avoid, we'll send a message that we don't approve of the way they treat their peoples.
- The Olympics are going to happen whether we like it or not; and this is a good opportunity to foster pro-friendship interactions between countries throughout the world
- There are other methods to send a message to China!
- We're not doing enough.
- Very easy to implement this motion

### **Procedural Motion**

*Request that the question be called.*

*Clause 1:* YS 2008 condemns the actions of the Chinese government, and calls upon the Chinese government to enshrine and protect the human rights of all its citizens. We will communicate this condemnation and call via letter to the Chinese consulate in Toronto.

**In Favour: 87**

**Opposed: 9**

**Clause carried.**

*Clause 2:* YS delegates will write to their MPs to request that Canada take a firm stance against human rights abuses in China.

**In Favour: 70**

**Opposed: 26**

**Clause Carried.**

*Clause 3:* YS delegates will boycott the 2008 Olympics, by not attending, nor watching the events on television, nor reading news reports of the Olympics.

**In Favour: 42**

**Opposed: 63**

**Clause defeated.**

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## **8. TAKING A BYTE OUT OF RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION**

**WHEREAS:** Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags are computer chips attached to an item and connected to an antenna that transmit a unique identification code when hit by a radio wave;

**AND WHEREAS:** RFID tags have been used to identify and monitor many different things, including library books, pets, livestock, and consumer products (like clothing, razors, lipstick, and underwear); yet if you held an item with an RFID tag, you would not necessarily know that the tag was there;

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

**AND WHEREAS:** while barcodes have a universal code for a single product, RFIDs have a unique tag designed to identify each individual product. Corporations and marketing companies hope to use portable and fixed readers to track and identify purchasing habits of individuals;

**AND WHEREAS:** Applied Digital Solutions (the makers of VeriChip), Persephone Inc., and other companies are already manufacturing RFIDs that can be implanted into high-risk individuals, such as hospital patients, children, soldiers, convicts, and the elderly, with many other companies contributing interactive products. Such technologies could allow others to watch, stalk, and track people without their knowledge;

**AND WHEREAS:** research has demonstrated an increased risk of cancer development in mice exposed to RFID tags. Serious health risks due to electromagnetic radiation could cause long term health problems, yet patents for using RFIDs with humans have already been filed without sufficient care for their impact on human health;

**AND WHEREAS:** our faith asks us to care for others. Excessive use of RFID technology could lead to complacency and a society in which people are not treated with the dignity they deserve. Whether a person is a medical patient, or is a child, or is elderly—whatever an individual’s circumstances--we are called in our baptism and by Jesus Christ to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving them as ourselves, and to respect the dignity of each human person.

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Youth Synod 2008 delegates will avoid buying products from companies that support RFID tagging.
2. Youth Synod 2008 will ask the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to organize a speaking event on the dangers of RFID mass use.
3. Youth Synod 2008 delegates will write to the Federal Privacy Commissioner, and the specific companies, to inform them of our concerns about maintaining our personal privacy given the increasing use of RFIDs.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Seconded by: Matt Saayman, St. Marks Orangeville

### **Discussion**

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- Chips are stuck to all sorts of products, suggestion that they should be left on
- Marketing companies might exploit this
- Barcodes are not unique, while
- Hospitals are limited in terms of the funds they have access to – there’s a real case to be made for tracking expensive medical equipment as well as patients (elderly, ill) who need additional attention
- There are many positive applications of this technology
- The motion is about the potential to misuse this technology
- A similar situation exists with cell phone – the radio frequencies that come from these are likely comparable to those of RFID’s
- Point of clarification: how is this information really that crucial
- Suggestion that this can track sensitive “big brother” type of data gathering

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

### **Procedural Motion**

*Motion to refer motion to Youth Synod Council.*

*Moved by:* Josh Morrison, Church of the Ascension, Hamilton

*Seconded by:* Jen Evans, St. James, Dundas

**In Favour: 83**

**Opposed: 13**

**Motion carried.**

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## 9. YOUTH SYNOD FOLLOW-UP & REPORTING

**WHEREAS:** many of the motions passed at Youth Synod require action on the part of its members and youth groups;

**AND WHEREAS:** there have been a large number of questions about how much action will be taken or how much concrete work will be accomplished by members when Youth Synod ends;

**AND WHEREAS:** the action of peers can act both as an opportunity for celebration and inspiration.

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Members be asked to report their actions resulting from the current years motions to Youth Synod Council in preparation for the next year's Youth Synod.
2. We ask that Youth Synod Council determines a dynamic method of reporting these actions to youth synod in a dynamic way (e.g., bulletin board, posters, slideshow presentation).
3. By January 1, 2009 there be an update from each parish in the Niagara Diocese of actions they have done to fulfill the motions passed at Youth Synod 2008.

Moved by: Ashley Smith, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Seconded by: Monica Griffin, St. Alban the Martyr, Hamilton

### **Discussion**

- Been a lot of discussion today around what and how we will track and note people acting on the motions of Youth Synod
- What we talk about gets put into action.
- Creates a record of what's actually been accomplished

### **Procedural Motion**

*Motion to refer motion to Youth Synod Council.*

*Moved by:* Stu Armstrong, St. John's, Cayuga

*Seconded by:* Alicia Archbell, St. Elizabeth's, Burlington

**In Favour: 71**

**Opposed: 23**

**Motion carried.**

## 10. ELIMINATING PAPER AT YOUTH SYNOD

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Youth Synod requests that DYMC and Youth Synod Council to send all delegate packages via e-mail and put in place procedures to ensure delegates read all necessary information.

Moved by: Rosie Hopkins, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Seconded by: Jen Harper, St. Paul's, Hamilton

## REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

### Discussion

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- We would reduce the amount of paper by almost 3/4s
- We can eliminate paper all together
- How many people are actually using the paper at home (maybe at home)
- Hotmail accounts bounce when diocesan staff e-mail it out.
- Many create reports at the end of youth synod; they use the paper form to make notes on and to work with throughout the weekend.
- How could we ensure delegates actually read the e-mails.
- Many people have their own computers and would bring their own computers to Youth Synod in order to read and make notes
- Returning delegates often don't read many of the sheets as they have redundant information.
- Would be helpful for delegates, as its harder to lose papers that are in ones e-mail
- Those who want to read it, will read it regardless of what form it comes in...those who don't want to; wont.
- Motions were available online...could resolve the e-mail logistics
- Is it possible to send the information through the clergy and have it trickle down to the youth; anything is possible.
- Gmail would take the mail
- Think about the 4,400 sheets of paper
- Wasting paper bad; this is a way to not do it.

**In Favour: 69**

**Opposed: 22**

**Motion carried.**

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### 11. MOTION TO REFER MISSED MOTIONS TO YOUTH SYNOD COUNCIL

**WHEREAS:** A number of delegates have worked hard to write and prepare some motions which this Youth Synod does not have time to consider properly.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** this Youth Synod refer the following motions received by the chair to Youth Synod Council:

- Bullying: A Call to Action

Moved by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Emma Smith, St. John's Burlington

**In Favour: 99**

**Opposed: 5**

**Motion carried.**

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### Closing Remarks

#### **The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Bishop:**

- Adds thanks to the people in the office without whom Youth Synod and all the other fine youth ministry programs would not happen: Joyce, Christyn, Jane.
  - Much love and passion, special word of thanks.
- What you have done today is spoken on behalf of the whole church. Spoken and proclaimed the hope and love of the risen Christ to people who live in poverty, victimized, and live without hope and in despair.
- You as Anglican Christians have proclaimed hope and love.

## **REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)**

- Through one of the motions, you have shown us all how we can live together in the church, even when we don't always agree. A lesson we can all learn.
- God bless you, we'll see you again next year.

### **The Venerable Dr. Steve Hopkins, Chancellor:**

- Really appreciated when Elliott stood up and identified as a beef farmer. The link is why we do fair trade, "farmers feed cities".
- Talked about the justice connection between Olympics and everyday trade. We support China daily. If we want to take a stand, then we need to enter in to the complexities of disentangling ourselves.
- How many contribute to the parish church? The capacity of what the church can do in response to what you want them to do is dependent on your support - you need to contribute to make the resources available. Need to put the financial resources in place. Don't pass a resolution without being able to put your own resources on the line.
- As we debate, we tend to speak most easily the language of logic, and public/political debate. The language we're less fluent with is the language of faith. Movers worked hard to reference it. We could find more power with the language of faith. Spend some time with learning and using this powerful language.
- Motion about monitoring the motions - accountability, happy to see.
- *Steve reviews everything that the delegates agree to do.*
- Made some important personal commitments.
- We need to make choices about where to act, about where our personal life story and personal passion engages God's love. It's where they intersect that we see the transforming capabilities.

### **Bill Mous, Chair:**

- Bill thanks head table. The Bishop, Steve, Justin and Emma.

### **Dianne Distler, Regional Dean of Undermount**

- Youth Synod takes on very important issues, social injustice, unfairness in world/others.
- You need to remember how much work goes in to preparing for this and say thank you to all involved.

### **Kathy Morgan, Regional Dean of Mohawk**

- It is always an honour to see the work that happens here.
- All corners of the diocese come together.
- Delegates take the work/voice seriously.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH**

*“To create, strengthen, and support responsible relationships which promote justice peace and the stewardship of creation.”*

Highlights of the committee’s work since Synod 2007 are:

### Survive & Thrive Outreach in the Name of Christ Endowment Fund

Over the summer a small sub-group of the Outreach Committee worked on revising the process for allocating *Survive & Thrive* Outreach Grants. The purpose of the revisions is to streamline the process both for parishes wishing to apply for funds and for the committee members allocating the funds. The main changes are as follows:

- Grants will be allocated only once per year, with an application deadline of October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The maximum yearly grant will now be \$5,000, since the Fund has only \$25,000 per year to allocate.
- Changes to the application form will assist applicants to clearly define how their projects contribute to the Division’s mission goals of justice, peace and right relations.
- A newly drafted evaluation form is to be submitted before an application for renewed funding can be considered.

Our goal is to encourage and support the outreach work of parishes in our diocese. We hope these changes will be helpful in that regard.

The *Survive & Thrive* Campaign established an Endowment Fund to assist parishes/ministries with new Outreach projects in Niagara. So far, in 2008, the following new grants have been approved;

1. St. Aidan’s, Oakville – Care Packages with Agape Love program \$6,000
2. Jamesville Community Centre – Taste of Jamesville Fun Fair \$1,500
3. McQuesten Community Centre Project – \$21,000 to serve the community; over three years
4. St. James and St. Brendan’s, Port Colborne – Navigator Café \$3,000

### Social Justice

In 2008 the focus of social justice work in the Diocese has been on affordable housing and Ontario’s Poverty Reduction Strategy.

### Affordable Housing Advocacy

- In partnership with the Toronto Diocese in their Affordable Housing Campaign, the Social Justice Coordinator for the Diocese of Niagara, organized meetings with six MPPs from the Halton and Hamilton areas to discuss the importance of affordable housing in our diocese.
- This was followed by participation in the national initiative on affordable housing lead by the Primate and National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. Work on this initiative picked up again this fall with the formation of a Housing Working Group made up of Anglicans and Lutherans from across the country. Kathleen Szoke of St. Luke’s, Burlington is assisting the Social Justice Coordinator with this work.

### From Charity to Justice

Coverage of the visits and campaigns in the diocesan paper along with background pieces on affordable housing resonated with many of the readers in the diocese. Arising out of this people expressed an interest in learning how to incorporate justice advocacy into their parish outreach programs.



## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH (continued)**

- On May 31, 2008, a group of twenty five Niagara Anglicans and friends came together to participate in a workshop run by Deacon Maylanne Maybee, the Coordinator for Justice Education and Networks of the Anglican Church of Canada. Hosted by the Church of the Incarnation in Oakville, participants spent half a day exploring the concepts of charity and justice and how they relate to parish outreach efforts. Through worship, reflection, conversation in small groups and in plenary, participants sought ways to encourage a justice-oriented approach in the social justice work undertaken in the Diocese both at the diocesan level and in the parishes.

### Poverty Reduction

Niagara Anglicans were also making efforts on ending poverty in Ontario.

- In early June Bishop Bird wrote to Minister Matthews, the Chair of the Ontario government's Poverty Reduction Strategy Committee endorsing the principles of the 25 in 5 Declaration – advocating for a 25% reduction in poverty within 5 years.
- Other Niagara Anglicans participated in the government's consultation on poverty reduction by attending meetings across the diocese. At least a half a dozen of the Charity to Justice Workshop participants were present at the June 27, 2008 Community Conversation with MPP Kevin Flynn in Oakville and Niagara Anglicans have been active participants on the Hamilton Working Group on the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy.

### Justice Camp 2010

In August 2008 Bishop Bird announced that the Diocese will be hosting the 2010 Justice Camp May 9-14, 2010. Community Justice Camp, *Live the Change You Want to See* is an opportunity to bring together young and old, those from near and far, all those who are concerned about injustice and want to answer the gospel call to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with the Lord.

We will learn from each other and from our community, ecumenical and interfaith partners how to identify the justice issues in our neighbourhoods, communities and parishes and take action that can help build a just community. It is a chance to showcase our Niagara outreach successes and get support to overcome our challenges.

### Anglican Church of Canada, Partners in Mission and EcoJustice Committee

On this committee the Diocese of Niagara is represented by Bill Mous and Colleen Sym. The Committee has met twice this triennium with the third meeting taking place in Montreal, October 2-5, 2008. In the first two meetings the committee members have met and come to know one another, and have taken some first steps in the goal to unite the work of two previous committees, Partners in Mission and EcoJustice. At the third meeting the committee will review the mandate from General Synod, and discuss their understandings of their role and responsibilities in the Anglican Church of Canada, as well as the ways of working together. In between meetings, the work of the committee is carried out through a structure of issues groups and actions groups.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH (continued)**

### Coins for Cuba

The Coins for Cuba project began in 2006 with an idea from Mr. John Page, Outreach Coordinator at Grace Church, Milton. This project is facilitated by the members of Grace Church, Milton with partnership from the Diocese of Niagara, Division of Outreach and the Primate's Office. The focus for this site is to raise awareness of the needs of the Episcopal Church in Cuba, the needs of congregations, clergy and church buildings. Coins for Cuba also look at ways and means to support Cuban students in seminary and studying towards ordination in the Episcopal Church of Cuba.

To date the program has sent over \$8,000 to the Diocese of Cuba and a further \$2,000 will be raised by year end, making the total gift by the end of 2008 \$10,000. The Primate will attend the Diocese of Cuba Synod in February of 2009 and will deliver the gift. For more information visit the website [www.coinsforcuba.ca/project\\_home.html](http://www.coinsforcuba.ca/project_home.html)

### Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

*Caring for God's Creation* was the theme for reflection, learning and action of The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund this past year. Every parish received printed materials, among them an activity / action calendar for interaction between adults and children.

The 40-day chart *Care for Creation* was aimed at teen-age children and suggested things or topics to pray for, act upon and give to. The Niagara PWRDF Reference Group adapted this chart for younger children and mailed it to all Sunday School Supervisors for distribution to and discussion with the children.

*Fair Trade* as a viable alternative economic movement and a realistic contribution to sustainable development was further promoted, following up on the distribution of literature and free samples at the 2007 Synod.

Most communication with parish representatives was via e-mail. On average 2.5 e-mail messages were sent containing emergency appeals, relevant articles, news about churches in the Southern hemisphere, etc. There was a good response to the appeal for Myanmar and China following the floods and earthquake.

In total, individuals and parishes within the Diocese of Niagara contributed \$232,062 in 2007 (this figure includes individual donations directly to the National Office.) This represents a 7% increase over our givings in 2006.

On September 13 this year, 16 representatives from 13 parishes came together for a 3-hour workshop to hear about plans for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, to share ideas and experiences and to make connections among themselves. The event was hosted by the Church of the Ascension, Hamilton, and was much appreciated by those able to attend.

The Primate's Fund came into being in 1958 when Anglicans across the country gave more than \$100,000 to aid victims of the Springhill mining disaster in Nova Scotia. General Synod in 1959 established the Primate's World Relief Fund, as it was initially called. Since then, Anglicans have given over \$80 million as "a response to the gospel call to bear witness to God's healing love in a broken world". It is hoped that the many blessings of PWRDF and of its partners in the southern hemisphere and Canada's north will be celebrated in the Diocese of Niagara and in every parish during the next 18 months.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH (continued)**

### Refugee Sponsorship

The number of refugee sponsorships is increasing this year, largely due to the number of Iraqi refugees in need of resettlement. Unfortunately this does not reflect an increase in interest in sponsorship at the parish level. We are able to sponsor refugees whose family members can provide financial support for them; however it is difficult to find parishes willing to sponsor refugees without family members in Canada with financial means. We would like to be able to help refugees in need of resettlement regardless of whether or not they have “connections” in Canada.

Since last year’s Synod we have welcomed several refugees from Iraq, and a family of ethnic Karen refugees from Burma, and we have cases pending from Iraq, Colombia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Our refugee coordinator, Carolyn Vanderlip, is continuing in her second term as an Elected Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) on the NGO/Government Committee on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. She is also a member of the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP) Advisory Committee. Carolyn attended a special consultation between all SAHs, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Winnipeg at the end of last year. She also attended the SAH Annual Forum in Ottawa, the Canadian Council for Refugees Fall consultation in Ottawa and Spring Consultation in Winnipeg, and a Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) Working Group meeting in Calgary.

The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund will begin celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and one of the important ways they plan to commemorate this milestone is through the sponsorship of 50 refugee families by parishes across Canada. We hope that our Diocese will be actively involved in this and that parishes will consider sponsorship to help a refugee family begin a new life in Canada.

### Current committee members

Mrs. Judy Connor

Ms. Alicia Archbell (Youth Representative)

The Reverend Elizabeth Huether

Dr. Ellie Johnson

The Reverend Patricia Lucy (Youth Mission Coordinator)

Mrs. Doris M’Timkulu (Diocesan P.W.R.D.F. Coordinator)

The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike

The Reverend Jean Ruttan-Yates, Deacon (Outreach Representative on Synod Council)

Mrs. Colleen Sym (Social Justice Coordinator, EcoJustice/PIM Representative)

The Reverend Lynne Thackwray

Mrs. Carolyn Vanderlip (Diocesan Refugee Coordinator)

The Venerable Michael Patterson (Director of Outreach)

Mrs. Karen Nowicki (Administrative Assistant to the Division of Outreach)

Respectfully submitted,  
Diocesan Division of Outreach

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT**

*Our Mission is to develop strong, vital, committed faith communities in the Diocese of Niagara and to nurture the leadership required to create and sustain them.*

Through programs, events, training days and parish consultations, Children, Youth and Family Ministries continues to support the Bishop's priorities for the Diocese of leadership, stewardship and evangelism.

### **Children and Family Ministries**

Program Consultant: Christyn Perkons on part-time basis.

- ✦ Works to enhance the ability of the Niagara Anglican Community to nurture the spiritual growth of children and their inclusion in faith communities.
- ✦ Provides resources and leadership training for Sunday morning programming, junior youth ministry and family ministry to parishes and parish clusters by request.
- ✦ Visits parishes to get to know volunteers and staff involved in children and family ministry; to get a sense of what's happening in parishes across the diocese and to offer resources.

#### **Family Ministry**

- ✦ An annual retreat for families is held at the Canterbury Hills Conference Centre each winter to provide families with an opportunity to relax, to reconnect with their family members, to bond with other families and to nourish each other. The 2009 Winter Retreat is scheduled for January 30 to February 1.
- ✦ Resources particular to family needs are available through the lending library and include books in the areas of parenting, family spirituality, family activities, special needs children, sexuality and family milestones as well as games, music and videos/CDs.

#### **Puppet Ministry**

- ✦ Eighteen puppets along with puppet skits, instruction guides, and training manuals are available for loan to parishes to use in Sunday morning children's programming, children's talks, worship, Bible storytelling, and church announcements. Mini training workshops can be provided to parishes by the consultant, and training days by a professional at a puppet training school are offered as interest dictates.

#### **Children's Festivals**

- ✦ The consultant provides support to the regional Children's Festivals through advertising, administration, and button design/creation. Over 700 children enjoy this event annually which typically occurs on the last Saturday in April. Planning for the 2009 Children's Festivals in Undermount/Mohawk, Lincoln/Brock, Greater Wellington, and Trafalgar began on November 3rd.

#### **Godly Play Training Workshop**

- ✦ A weekend training event for those interested in using Godly Play in their parishes was held the weekend after Easter at L'Arche in Richmond Hill and involved the Diocese of Toronto and Huron. Ten participants from Niagara learned how about the leader roles, how to tell the stories and engage the children in reflection, and how to create resources. Godly Play resources are available from the lending library and further training will be offered.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)**

### **Soul Rhythms**

- ✦ An annual event intended to nourish, nurture and thank parish volunteers – Sunday, November 16 at St. Christopher's, Burlington.
- ✦ Participants have a choice of workshops (which have included in the past offerings such as Aromatherapy, Sacred Circle Dancing, Drumming, Biblical Gardening, Card making) and also enjoy dinner and a guest speaker.

### **Lending Library**

A wide variety of books, activities, games, music, videos and CDs are available for three week loans through the Program Consultant's office. New resources include:

- Welcoming Differences: Including Children Who Experience Challenges
- Sleep in Peace – *in a bed, a tent or a hammock, God is there*
- Still My Grandma – *introduces young readers to Alzheimer's while reminding them of the power of love*
- 10 Conversations You Need to Have With Your Children
- Who Moved My Cheese for Children
- The Ark – *a pop up book*
- Lectionary Story Bible

### **Resources**

The consultant can provide:

- ✦ Resource packages for All Saints Day, Ash Wednesday and Pentecost.
- ✦ Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation materials.
- ✦ Retreat planning resources.
- ✦ Innovative worship resources.
- ✦ Response to particular needs such as: specific types of crafts, crafts related to a particular observance such as Good Friday, games for teaching servers, developing a junior youth ministry, and summer activities related to church and faith experiences to name but a few.
- ✦ Information handouts including articles on Prayers for Children, Hosting an All Saints Party, Working with Behavioural Challenges, Christmas Pageants, What's Available in Church School Curriculum, Teaching Tips 101, Co-operative Games, Puppet Ministry in the Parish, and Young Teens Ministry Toolbox.

### **Youth Ministry**

Program Consultants: Joyce Wilton and Christyn Perkons job-share this 4/5 time portfolio.

- ✦ Work to enhance the ability of the Niagara Anglican Community to nurture the spiritual growth of youth and young adults and their inclusion in faith communities.
- ✦ Provide resources and leadership training for junior/senior youth ministry and young adult initiatives to parishes and parish clusters by request.
- ✦ Visit parishes on request to get to know volunteers and staff involved in youth ministry, to get a sense of what's happening in parishes across the diocese and to offer support and resources

### **Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee (DYMC)**

- ✦ Representatives meet monthly to support and offer direction to the Program Consultants, to define and execute the direction, vision and plans around diocesan-wide programming and training needs, and to offer feedback about resources.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)**

### **The Annual Calendar of Events includes:**

#### **Diocesan Synod Youth Members Residence & Orientation**

- ✚ A residential program at Canterbury Hills that includes an orientation to synod procedures for Youth Members of Diocesan Synod during the annual Synod meeting in November.
- ✚ The residence and orientation will take place on Friday, November 7 to Saturday, November 8, 2008 at Canterbury Hills, for youth member ages 16-25.
- ✚ Provides an opportunity to create relationships amongst the youth and young adult community attending Diocesan Synod, and offer support and education about procedures and meeting content for Synod.

#### **SpiritQuest**

- ✚ An intimate spiritual retreat for youth aged 15-24.
- ✚ SpiritQuest was held the Unity Retreat Centre in Hamilton, with 12 participants and three leaders, February 1-2, 2008.
- ✚ The program has expanded recently to include a young adult component with particular emphasis on making transitions and the spiritual journey.
- ✚ The 2009 event will take place January 30-February 1 at the Crieff Hills Retreat Centre in Puslinch.

#### **Servers' Fest**

- ✚ An annual day-long event to connect, thank and encourage servers of all ages from all parishes across the diocese.
- ✚ The 2009 event will be on Saturday, February 28 at Christ's Church Cathedral.

#### **Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP)**

- ✚ A three-year leadership training program (now in its third decade) held during March Break. It took place at Canterbury Hills, this year from March 11-14, 2007 with 40 youth participants, ages 13-16, including seven adult leaders.
- ✚ A Commissioning Service for the 3rd year participants, their families and supporters was held at Canterbury Hills on June 14, 2008. Thanks to Jay Blackwood and Judy Worsley for their three years of leadership to this 2008 graduating group.
- ✚ The 2009 event will take place Sunday, March 15 to Wednesday, March 18.
- ✚ Applications for first year participants are available now and will be accepted until the end of January 2009.

#### **Youth Synod**

- ✚ The largest youth ministry program in Niagara, the 20th annual Youth Synod was hosted by St. Andrew's, Grimsby, May 2-4, 2008.
- ✚ Offers youth delegates ages 13-21 the opportunity to debate and strategize about issues important to their faith and their communities.
- ✚ Over 100 delegates, 20 adult observers, and over 50 adult volunteer staff were in attendance representing over 50 parishes. The minutes are available on the Youth Ministry website: [www.zipsqueal.com](http://www.zipsqueal.com). Many thanks to our host parish St. Andrew's for their enthusiasm and gracious hospitality!
- ✚ Youth Synod 2009, hosted by St. Christopher's Burlington will take place May 1-3.

#### **Youth Synod Council**

- ✚ This body drafts motions for the upcoming Youth Synod, follows up on motions post-Synod, and functions as the voice of youth in the Diocese of Niagara between Youth Synods.

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)**

- ✚ Involves 15 youth representatives representing the regions along with the Chair of Youth Synod
- ✚ Thanks to Rev. Matthew Griffin for facilitating the Council's work in 2008, and for continuing in 2009.

### **Youth Ministry Sunday**

- ✚ A variety of resources (bulletin covers, theme ideas, and liturgical material) are offered to parishes to help them celebrate Youth Ministry in their congregation on the date of their choosing.
- ✚ Resource material and bulletin covers were mailed to all parishes prior to the June event (our target celebration date, parishes can use the material at their own convenience) and also available on the website at [www.zipsqueal.com](http://www.zipsqueal.com). Check out this site to view the 2008 resources and the resources from previous years. The new material is posted in early May.

### **Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)**

- ✚ The cornerstone event in youth ministry in Niagara - this year was the 62nd Anniversary of the first NYC (formerly NLC).
- ✚ The purpose of this five day residential event is to establish a caring, spiritual, participatory, learning community that encourages inclusivity and personal sharing (mitigated, of course, by fun and frivolity).
- ✚ NYC took place from August 24-29, 2008 at Canterbury Hills. The program is staffed by 19 volunteers who give nine months to the planning and execution of this conference; pictures of which can be viewed at [www.zipsqueal.com](http://www.zipsqueal.com).

### **Regional Youth Ministry**

#### Lincoln Youth Fest (LYF)

- ✚ The parishes in the Lincoln Region, with the assistance of the diocesan youth ministry staff, began to dream of working cooperatively in ministry to its youth in grades 5-8 in the winter of 2006 which has resulted in the Lincoln Youth Fest which meets monthly, one Friday a month, to share a meal, to have fun together and to develop a new and supportive faith community across the region. Unfortunately due to all the ministry staff involved in this project leaving this region, we have now placed this program on hold for the time being. Thank you to Catherine Novis and Canon Stuart Pike for all their hard work and many hours to offer this program in the Lincoln Region.

#### Hamilton Regional Youth Worship – The Gathering

- ✚ This event, now completing its third year offers worship quarterly in the 21st Century with a live band and liturgy written and delivered by its youth and young adult participants.
- ✚ A group of committed youth leaders and adult supporters meet along with diocesan youth ministry staff to plan this worship in the Hamilton area.
- ✚ Our goal in 2008 was to extend this ministry to the Greater Wellington area. This goal was reached with one event held at St. George's, Guelph on April 5<sup>th</sup> and another at St. Matthias on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Lending Resource Library**

- ✚ Includes resources for program planning, current youth ministry theory and theology as well as worship and music resources. Located at the Diocesan Resource Centre Program Department offices and are available to individuals and parishes.
- ✚ To check out the many resources available, an on-line catalogue can be found on the youth ministry website: [www.zipsqueal.com](http://www.zipsqueal.com).

## **REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)**

### **Consultations and Training**

- ✚ Joyce and Christyn are involved with a number of parishes on a consultation basis.
- ✚ Consultations can be as simple as telephone support and resource sharing electronically or as complex as a multi-event response created for your parish.
- ✚ Consultations are designed to meet the needs of the individual parish. The focus of the consultation may include visioning for youth ministry in the specific parish or area, development of a youth ministry program, specific training for youth ministry staff and volunteers as well as advice on hiring youth ministry personnel.

### **Thanks to our Volunteers!**

Thank you to the dozens of volunteers who have supported our work in the past year. Without you, these ministries would not be transforming people's lives.

### **Adult Education - Bishop's Diploma Course (BDC)**

- ✚ This program provides instruction related to faith issues for over 100 lay people through two eight-week terms (fall and winter) and is offered in as many as six parish centres. Course themes include Old Testament, New Testament, ethics, liturgy, history, spirituality, world religions and Anglicanism.
- ✚ Diploma requirements are completion of six course and attendance at a retreat.
- ✚ Retreats and graduations are planned biennially. The next retreat and graduation will be planned for 2009.
- ✚ Thank you to BDC leaders Rev. Canon Dr. Mark McDermott, Ven. Bruce McPetrie, Rev. Canon Barry Randle, Rev. John Ripley and Rev. Paul Whitehouse, for their ongoing leadership and dedication to the program.
- ✚ Jane Wyse provides staff support for BDC and may be contacted for information.

### **Congregation Support**

- ✚ Joyce serves on the Safe Church Committee, is a member of the Safe Church investigative team, and staffs the Volunteer Management & Screening initiatives for the diocese.
- ✚ Christyn does congregational support and development work with parishes using tools such as Open Space, Asset Mapping, Appreciative Inquiry & Holy Conversations/Strategic Planning, maintains a CSD resource library, serves on Candidates Committee, and coordinates the Alternative Liturgy Conversation.

### **Congregational Support & Development Resources**

- ✚ Emerging Church/Alternate Worship – books, videos, DVDs.
- ✚ Change Management – books and 'how to' manuals.
- ✚ Adult Education – programs; Via Media, Living the Questions (1 & 2) Saving Jesus, Eclipsing Empire, The Fit Life.
- ✚ Parish Guide for Same Gender Blessings Discussion.
- ✚ PCensus – a tool that gives parishes access to detailed demographic information for any area around the parish including census data, current and future year estimates, demographic profiling and lifestyle targeting.

### **Staff of the Division are:**

- ✚ Michael Patterson, Executive Officer
- ✚ Christyn Perkons, Consultant, Children, Youth & Family Ministries, & Congregational Support
- ✚ Joyce Wilton, Consultant, Youth Ministry, Volunteer Management & Screening, Congregational Support
- ✚ Jane Wyse, Diocesan Administrative Assistant



## REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY

When I began to work with Transitional Ministries, several years ago, the first thing that happened was the unification and integration of the *Diocesan Interim Ministry Program* with Niagara's *Fresh Start Program*, in an effort to better serve the needs of parishes in transition. However, the longer I work in this area; I recognize how all encompassing the task of transitional ministry is. This year, we have expanded to work with congregations experiencing closure and unification with other congregations. Also this year, we have begun to do some work with individual clergy who are dealing with transitions within their work life, including the transition of retirement.

The ***Interim Ministry*** work includes not only assisting and advising the Diocesan Bishop (and at times, the Executive Officer) in the process of deploying trained Interim ministers, but in arranging for screening and training of potential interim ministers. As well, we have a small group of volunteer transition consultants who assist parishes in planning process and in the creation of a parish profile. In addition to the ongoing support provided by the Synod Office to clergy and parishes who are in "Interim time", we host monthly gathering of interims who share their challenges with one another. Sometimes, we formally present case studies, other times we simply have a Question and Answer session together. Other times, we simply come together for mutual support. As this moment, we have seven interims in place in parishes throughout Niagara (although in the past year we have had a total of seventeen interim pastors deployed throughout the Diocese).

In the past year, the **Parish Transition Consultants** who have contributed greatly to the life of this Diocese in parish transitions were:

Dr. Fred Hall  
Mr. Bob Morrow  
The Reverend John Ripley  
Canon Bill Thomas

The Diocese of Niagara maintains an Institutional Membership with the Interim Ministry Network, which is an international ecumenical organization which includes over 35 denominations on three continents. It is through this network that our Interims receive their basic training. It should be noticed that the training modules for Interims have been reorganized within the past two years. In the ongoing training, which we offer our Interims in Niagara, we try to help them connect with the most up to date resources. Currently, the efforts of the Mission Strategy group and Transitional Ministry are unifying in creating a process to help congregations in transition identify the challenges that need to be addressed by specific communities as they form their new ministry plan.

Largely through the efforts of my predecessor, Canon Bill Thomas, Niagara is recognized as being at the cutting edge of Interim and Transition work. Frequently we are asked by other Diocese to assist them in setting up a cohesive Transition program. Currently, both Bill and I are mentoring clergy in the Diocese of Huron as they seek to establish their Interim program. This past spring, Bill joined me in attending the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Interim Ministry Conference in Pheasant Run, Illinois, outside of Chicago.

## **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY (continued)**

**Fresh Start** is another program which we use during times of transition. Fresh Start is a collaborative effort of The Episcopal Church, sponsored by Cornerstone, a ministry of the Episcopal Church Foundation, the Office for Ministry Development, the Church Deployment Office and now adopted and adapted by the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Fresh Start program uses an educational model based on thematic modules which are organized around leadership tools and theory. Basic to the program is the “family systems” theory, recognition that our parishes frequently operate with some of the same dynamics as do our families.

We look forward to offering meaningful, supportive Fresh Start experiences for both clergy and parishes in transition in the year to come. We continue to experiment with different models to see what best serves the interests of both clergy and parishes as together in Niagara we continue to be proactive about having a great “Fresh Start” as incumbencies change.

### **Fresh Start Facilitators in the Diocese of Niagara:**

Ms. Laurie Adamson  
The Reverend Jean Archbell  
Ms. Diane Hewat  
The Venerable Dr. Stephen Hopkins  
Ms. Ruth Anne Martin  
Mr. Greg Murray

The Reverend Michael Mondloch  
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell  
The Reverend Sue Nicholls  
The Reverend Canon Bill Thomas  
The Venerable Marion Vincett

One of the personal challenges for me is to keep a professional balance, in terms of my work as the Director of Transitional Ministries, particularly in times when I am serving personally as an Interim in a parish. While I am at heart, a pastor and deeply enjoy interim work, I find that sometimes it limits my availability for some of my Diocesan work. My occasional lack of availability is a challenge for parishes who are in need of support in their own time of transition. Even when I am not frequently in my office, I am, however, available by e-mail at: [marni.nancekivell@niagara.anglican.ca](mailto:marni.nancekivell@niagara.anglican.ca)

I wish to thank the faithful folk who serve in a variety of ways during times of transition, our trained Interim Pastors, Fresh Start Consultants and Parish Transition Consultants. As well, I thank members of the parishes in Niagara, who have been able to trust the process during the sometimes anxious time of transition. You are a wonderful group of people who seek to serve God in moments that can be both rich and challenging in congregational life.

We, in this Diocese are indebted to our retired Diocesan Bishop, The Rt. Reverend D. Ralph Spence and the Venerable Marion Vincett for the work they have done in years past, and thank our current Bishop, the Right Reverend Michael A. Bird and the Venerable Michael Patterson for their support for an intentional process of transition within the Diocese of Niagara.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell  
Director of Transitional Ministry

## **REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS SUMMER CAMP**

The Diocesan Summer Camping Program which is located at and run by Canterbury Hills, saw almost 600 children come through our Residential and Day Camps in 2007. In unit groups of 8 (residential) or 10 (day), campers, along with their Unit Leaders and LITs (Leaders-in-Training), plan their own time at camp. They are able to take advantage of the craft cabin, archery range, the low and high ropes course, the pool, the chapel, day hikes, out lunches, overnight camp outs, evening programs, campfires, and an ever-changing variety of activities as they have fun, make new friends, experience living in a forest setting, all within the care and nurture of a Christian community.

In addition to the 'activities' of camp, the campers experience and hopefully learn consensus decision making, good communication strategies, problem resolution skills, reflection techniques, and planning models. These are the added bonuses of the unique model of decentralized, child-centred camping called 'unit camping' offered at Canterbury Hills. From parent feedback and full registrations, we believe that this combination of hard and soft camp experiences is appreciated by families from virtually every corner of our diocese and beyond.

In 2007 we continued our partnerships with Angel Tree (serving families of incarcerated parents), the Hamilton Children's Aid Society, Reach for the Rainbow (placing children with physical or developmental challenges in a camp setting with one-on-one staffing) and St. Matthew's House (providing a camp experience for children whose families cannot afford camp without financial assistance). Seeing these children integrated into cabin units and enjoying all the fun and benefits of summer camp is very rewarding and encouraging.

In 2007, the Canterbury Hills Camp program was coordinated very ably by Courtney Evers for a second year. Courtney and the other four members of the Resource Team (unit camping jargon for Senior Staff) supported a staff of seventeen residential cabin leaders and seven day camp leaders, along with providing training for twelve LITs. The energy, safety-consciousness, skill and dedication of this entire staff team is clearly what makes this ministry so successful and well-appreciated by the families who entrust their children to the summer camp program.

Courtney moved on to wedding planning (her own!) and instructing nursing at McMaster University in 2008, and Jason Blackwood assumed the Camp Coordinator position in the summer of 2008.

The allocation of DM&M monies to this child and young adult ministry, evangelism, outreach and leadership training, continues to benefit both local and parish communities across the Diocese of Niagara. We are also very grateful to the individuals and parishes who contribute each year to the Camp Bursary Fund, and to the members of our Camp Alumni group, who together provide several thousand dollars annually to help ensure that no child is denied a camp experience at Canterbury Hills due to financial constraints.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend David Linn  
Executive Director, Canterbury Hills

**REPORT OF THE  
ANGLICAN CHURCH MINISTRIES (ACM) FOUNDATION, NIAGARA**

The Board of Directors of the Foundation has continued to supervise the financial results of the funds entrusted to the Foundation:

**Endowment Funds**

The various funds established to receive capital gifts from members of the diocesan family include:

Training and Leadership Fund  
Outreach Fund  
Divinity Students Endowment Fund  
The Bishop's Company Endowment Fund  
Endowment funds established by various parishes

The endowment funds instituted by certain parishes are a new responsibility of the Foundation.

**Financial Report**

Please see the 2007 audited financial statements on the pages following.

The Foundation had Fund balances totaling \$3,034,596 as at December 31, 2007.

The Foundation is mandated to both protect and grow the capital funds entrusted to the Foundation on a long-term basis. The results for 2007 reflect success in this regard.

Again this year, I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Directors for their continuing support and dedication.

**Directors - 2007**

Mr. Seymour Wigle  
Mr. Andrew Bucknall, Vice- President  
Mrs. Joyce Frank  
Mr. James Sweetlove, President  
Mr. Gordon Archbell, Secretary  
Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer (Ex-officio)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. James Sweetlove, President

## **REPORT OF THE UNDERMOUNT REGIONAL COUNCIL**

The Twelve Tribes of Undermount have now become the Ten Tribes of Undermount

Undermount Region lies below the mountain (Niagara Escarpment) from Winona on the east to west of McMaster University and north to Hamilton Harbour and Lake Ontario. It is a region of agriculture, educational facilities, shipping and both light and heavy industry. We have ten parishes including the Cathedral. We also have St. Matthews House and three community outreach centers located in Undermount Region. The Mission to Sea Farers, situated in the Hamilton Harbour area, which serves the visiting sailors from ships of many countries that are docked in Hamilton, is also located in our Region. We are the smallest in mileage but powerful in spirit! Our welcoming parishes are a very diverse people, from the street folk to the descendants of the founding fathers of Hamilton; we offer a great diversity of theology from Anglo-Catholic to Evangelical, from Liberal to Conservative. Undermount also offers many sizes of spaces and buildings from the Cathedral to St. John's Winona, from organs and hymn books to guitars and power point, from the traditional inspirational quiet services to lively, invigorating worship. Many of our parishes are working locally with faith groups of other denominations and are active in their vicinities with Bible Study, Prayer Groups, Out of the Cold, Open Doors Hamilton, senior's activities, youth clubs, breakfast programs, and AA groups. We have something for everyone.

We were sorry to say goodbye to our Interim Archdeacon Marion Vincett in January and also to our Regional Dean the Reverend Sandy Copland. All of us are happy to have the Reverend Canon Dr. Rick Jones as our new Archdeacon and the Reverend Dianne Distler as our new Regional Dean. A warm welcome to our new member parish, St. Paul's, Westdale.

We've been through some anxious, challenging, exciting, frustrating, thrilling, exhilarating times which allowed 'all things to become made new'. As part of our Greening initiative many of our parishes have held meetings around Al Gore's, "An Inconvenient Truth", and Environment Hamilton's, "Peak Oil". Many of the Undermount parishes have formed Greening Committees working to improve the environment in and around our buildings and grounds.

It is one of the mandates of Regional Council to "support, encourage and facilitate the mission of the church in response to local and regional needs" Canon 1.10, 5(a). This has taken a on a variety of appearances over the years from Praise All Ways, the Children's Festival, assisting with St. Matthew's House and the Out of the Cold Program. As an Outreach Program this past year we distributed Greening packages to all our parishes and missions. These included recycling bags of various sizes, energy efficient light bulbs and environmentally friendly hand cleansers. This year we are continuing with our Greening Niagara concept. From the information given out at our meetings, many of our parishes have upgraded their lighting and heating to more energy efficient units thereby reducing their energy costs. They have also reduced water and paper usage. Most have considerably, reused, recycled and reduced what formerly had been discarded into landfills.

Undermount Regional Council, in the spirit of change, decided to change to a more outward focus of tackling environmental and poverty issues. Out of our initial meeting with several environmental organizations have come a flood of ideas, visions, and plans. We are currently part of the Greening Niagara Committee at the Diocesan level.

**REPORT OF THE UNDERMOUNT REGIONAL COUNCIL (continued)**

We hold bi-monthly Regional Council meetings. Each parish attending the meetings informs others of their success with the events they have held and also future activities. That way we all share in the spread of great ideas that each of us can take back to our own parishes. The Council reps are also made aware of the Diocesan programs that may be new to them or that they need to take action on in their home parishes. All of us feel it is truly thrilling to be a small part of something far greater, because we too can make a difference!

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Betty Denny  
Mr. Russell Kelk

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Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Betty Denny  
Mr. Russell Kelk



## **REPORT OF THE GREENING NIAGARA COMMITTEE**

### **Introduction**

In the words of the Global Anglican Congress on the Stewardship of Creation:

Our planetary crisis is environmental, but it is more than that. It is a crisis of the Spirit and the Body, which runs to the core of all that we hold sacred.... As people of faith, Christ draws us together to share responsibility for this crisis with all humanity.

In our diocese, our churches and our people have long expressed a concern for creation that is consistent with the fifth mark of mission of the Anglican Communion: "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth".

The Greening Niagara committee seeks to enable all of us to live out this mark of mission as part of our commitment to God's mission and ministry in our world.

### **Formation of the Committee**

At the invitation of Bishop Michael Bird and Archdeacon Michael Patterson, we began the process of forming the Greening Niagara Committee, a standalone committee of Synod Council, in April 2007. The committee's formation came about as a direct result of a request by our Diocesan Synod in 2007. Bishop Bird asked the committee to look at ways in which we might enable and animate parishes in the diocese to be better environmental custodians of creation.

The first meeting of the new committee of fourteen members from across our diocese took place in June. In forming the committee an appreciation for diverse voices and experiences was central to our thinking. At our first meeting, we gathered together to share their interests and wisdom about the committee's work, and to develop an initial plan for the work of the committee as it gets off the ground.

### **Development of Mandate**

Over the summer months a small group of committee members worked on the Greening Niagara committee's mandate. At the time of writing, a draft mandate has been created which outlines the immediate priorities of the committee and the scope of its work in our diocese. It will be taken to the fall meeting of the Greening Niagara committee for approval by the whole committee and then forwarded to Synod Council for approval.

### **Working Groups**

Committee members were asked to join one of three working groups – developed based on the identified priorities of the committee – based upon their particular gifts and interests. The working groups are as follows:

**Policy & Procedures Working:** This working group will strive to develop and implement diocesan policies for all aspects of our mission and ministry that minimize our negative impact on creation through sustainable practices. In addition, it will implement, in partnership with the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB), a process by which parishes and diocesan ministries are encouraged to undertake initiatives which reduce their impact on the environment. We're grateful to the BACCB for an invitation to liaise with the work of their committee and are delighted that Michael Skafel has agreed to be our liaison. The group's convener is Bill Mous.

## **REPORT OF THE GREENING NIAGARA COMMITTEE (continued)**

**Educational Initiatives Working Group:** This group will reflect theologically about issues pertaining to creation, and compile resources to educate the people and parishes of our diocese about environmental issues and sustainable practices from a faith perspective. This group has already submitted several articles to the Niagara Anglican, and hopes to redevelop the Greening Niagara webpage in the coming months to better serve our diocese. One can also expect regional education days and theological resources to be produced from this group as it gets off the ground. This group is convened by Russ Kelk.

**Animating Parishes Working Group** : As requested by Synod, this group will equip and inspire local parish advocates and green teams by developing resources, initiating a green parish accreditation program and disseminating information about external resources such as funding grants and related programs. Many parishes have already formed a 'green team' to help them work through issues related to the stewardship of creation. If you haven't already, perhaps you might appoint a Green Advocate or gather together interested members of your congregation to form a Green Team. Our thanks to Susan Curran who has agreed to convene this working group.

### **Greening Niagara Kits**

The diocese purchased six Greening Sacred Spaces kits from Faith and the Common Good, a multi-faith organization that supports environmental stewardship. They are an excellent resource with information, videos and posters to help your parish with its greening work. One kit has been made available to each region; please contact Karen Nowicki at the Diocesan Resource Centre ([karen.nowicki@niagara.anglican.ca](mailto:karen.nowicki@niagara.anglican.ca)) for more information.

### **The Way Forward**

Building on the work of grass-roots efforts from groups in our diocese like Undermount Regional Council and our Youth Synod, the Greening Niagara committee will continue learning about and taking action towards addressing the complex issues facing our diocese with respect to its care of creation. Our goal is to be partners with the parishes and people of our diocese. We hope that in the course of your work you'll share wisdom with our committee so that we can share it throughout the diocese. Please contact Russ Kelk ([firstrover@aol.com](mailto:firstrover@aol.com)) or Bill Mous ([billstjames@bellnet.ca](mailto:billstjames@bellnet.ca)) with information and resources that we might share with the diocese or if we can be of assistance to you in the work of your parish or ministry.

### **Committee members**

Mrs. Catharine Bennett  
Ms. Sue Carson  
Ms. Sarah Clarke  
Ms. Susan Curran  
Mrs. Patricia Davis  
Mr. Michael Edwards  
The Reverend George Henry

Mr. Russ Kelk, Co-Chair  
The Reverend Bill Mous, Co-Chair  
The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz  
Mr. Michael Skafel  
Mr. Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh  
The Venerable Michael Patterson,  
Staff Support  
Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Staff Support

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Russell Kelk and  
The Reverend Bill Mous, Co-Chairs

## **REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Canterbury Hills Conference Centre and Camp enjoyed another very successful year of providing a Ministry of Hospitality to guests at the Conference Centre and children in the summer camping program. Canterbury Hills is a jewel of creation right on our doorstep. It is a gift that provides joy, recreation, education, and memories to thousands of people every year.

Use of the facilities has shown steady growth through the past year. 2007 was one of the busiest in history for bookings of the Conference Centre. New client bookings have increased with an increase in multiple bookings as well. The summer camping program continues to run at near maximum capacity. Day camp registrations were at 100% of capacity and the residential camping program ran at 98% capacity.

The ongoing success of Canterbury Hills is directly linked to the skill, dedication, and commitment of the staff. Customer service and client satisfaction is important to maintaining a strong client base. We are very fortunate that everyone at Canterbury Hills: kitchen staff, maintenance staff, administration, and volunteers provide the warmth, friendliness and caring of this ministry of hospitality. We welcome Lisa Tuck as our new office manager. Lisa is cheerful, helpful and often the first person clients encounter when contacting Canterbury.

We are very thankful for the two years of strong leadership that Courtney Evers provided as Camping Coordinator in 2006 and 2007. New to this leadership role in 2008 was Jason Blackwood. Jason has a close family connection to Canterbury. He is the grandson of Canon David Blackwood, camping director in the 60's and 70's. Enthusiastic camp Resource Team members, Unit Leaders and LITs have continued to provide almost 600 campers with a happy, safe, faith-based memorable camping experience each summer.

Leadership development continues to be one of the important by-products of our camping program. The Leader in Training program is an excellent source for recruiting new camp staff. Many of these young people are also active leaders within their parishes.

The Canterbury Hills Board of Directors has benefitted from the leadership of many volunteers. A special note of thanks is due to departing members Kirk Boyd and Marion Vincett who have been long serving members of the Board. As they depart we welcome Michael Patterson as our newest member.

A facility such as Canterbury Hills requires constant maintenance. Six rooms in Artaban Lodge have been updated thanks to the generous support of several parishes. In many ways Canterbury Hills is like any living organism. It needs to be nourished, protected, encouraged and empowered to evolve. We are fortunate that our Executive Director, David Linn, has been able to do this so capably. David continues to increase his education and training and recertified in 2007 as a Conference Centre Professional with the International Association of Conference Centre Administrators.

After a very successful 2007 the Board of Directors and staff of Canterbury Hills look forward to continuing to exercise our Ministry of Hospitality in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Greg Murray, Chair

## **REPORT OF BROCK REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Brock Region encompasses the half of the Niagara Peninsula that includes Dunnville, Wainfleet, Port Colborne, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls (and previously Chippawa), Fonthill and Welland. All the parishes are represented at meetings the first Wednesday of the month, each at a different parish even though distances can be daunting. This exercise has made our region “smaller” in the sense that we know our region better and has offered us opportunities to visit and learn first hand about other parishes.

The format of most meetings is a presentation by a guest speaker on either a topical subject or an activity of the Church which needs support or wider understanding. These are followed by a brief social period with refreshments, provided by the hosting parish, after which we attend to the business portion of the meeting.

An important element of the business meeting is the report from Synod Council which updates parish reps on the various matters of concern from the Diocese and any proposed changes to Canon law or policies and the budget intentions. Parish reps also have an opportunity to share their upcoming events and activities, including the successes of the previous month. We invite each parish representative or their church secretary to send information to the regional chair or secretary electronically, if possible, so all member churches can be kept apprised of events. Churches are then in a better position to support other parishes in our region. The business portion of the meeting is also an opportunity for parishes to discuss new ideas and discover new ways in which to grow.

We continue to enjoy monthly presentations from a variety of sources which have provided valuable information to the council. We have come to realize that there is a wealth of resources out there and people who are eager to share their knowledge with us. We are seldom at a loss for topics or guest speakers to provide enlightenment on their subject of expertise.

This year our knowledge base has been expanded with presentations from;

- Russ Kelk and The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz, who gave us ideas on how to begin/continue to “Green” our parishes. Each member received a CD of the lists of ideas to share with their parish.
- Diane Doneff from Women’s Addiction Recovery Mediation (WARM) shared the role they play in the peninsula for women needing this support and how we as parishes can be of assistance.
- September’s meeting expanded on the “greening” theme with a presentation by Sue Lund the representative from Shaklee Products. Each parish was encouraged to invite their caretaker and/or rector to the session to assess the viability of use in their parishes.
- As a result of the two (2) greening topics, the region is exploring the possibility of hosting an evening or Saturday event to further promote the “Greening of Niagara” philosophy.
- A representative from Bethlehem Place has been invited to share with us their mandate within the community, their history, and how we can assist them in getting information out about their organization. Women and children are a vulnerable group in our communities that continue to appreciate the assistance of our outreach.

## **REPORT OF BROCK REGIONAL COUNCIL (continued)**

As has become our tradition, our June meeting is a pot luck social to celebrate the arrival of summer and our hiatus, as well as the contributions of the members of our council. This year we entertained the Bishop at the home of Lisa Punch, in Stevensville.

Thank you to all the council members who continue to come out diligently, especially in the cold, snowy, winter months, without whose attendance there would be no regional council. Our first meeting after our summer break is held in September and we always look forward to a successful and informative finish to the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Patricia Davis, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN ARCHIVIST**

This year, 2008 has been a busy one in the Diocesan Archives. With the closure of a number of parishes, this has brought much material to Cathedral Place. I am still in the process of going through many cartons of material to sort out what is of an archival nature. I take all the parish registers, up to the time of disestablishment, index them and send the originals to McMaster University. Copies are not made if the parish is closed. Any copies of old registers are kept safely at Cathedral Place where I have access to them. If only the original exists this is kept at McMaster and I have access to them. This accessibility also applies to Vestry books which have been sent to me. If you don't know what your parish has at McMaster, just let me know and I will send you a copy.

I attended last November 1 - 3, 2007 in Toronto, along with Ruth Anne Martin, the Administrative Assistant to the Archivist, The Anglican Archivists Network Meeting. This was hosted by Nancy Hurn, the General Synod Archivist, and Mary-Ann Nicholls, Archivist of the Diocese of Toronto. Present were Diocesan Archivists from all across Canada. It was privilege to meet with them and share a common interest. Much was learned and taken away from this meeting.

From this meeting has resulted our newly revised brochure on "Archives - Our Story" which sets out clearly each parishes' responsibility for parish archives in Niagara. Copies were sent out to each parish.

We also are exploring the possibility of composing a Stained Glass Window Registry for the Diocese. This will be of great importance and value especially as some parishes are closed and stained glass windows become a problem to deal with. Already a brochure has been mailed to every parish about the care of your stained glass windows \_ NO WINDEX please!

Many people are doing family histories today, or searching U.E.L. connections. Parish records are important sources for much of this information. Please assist future researchers by keeping accurate parish records.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Venerable John Rathbone  
Diocesan Archivist

**CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON  
SYNOD MEMORIAL**

We, the Cathedral Council of Christ's Church Cathedral, strongly encourage the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to move forward in accordance with Biblical justice, by demonstrating integrity, inclusiveness and courage. This is consistent with Jesus' example in a ministry of transformation in the face of societal norms, multiple barriers of poverty and prejudice, and the assumptions and traditions of the faith in which He was raised.

The Cathedral Council further affirms the direction of Synod of 2007, continuing to embrace the Anglican traditions of diversity of opinion and of practice in unity that does not require unanimity, embracing difference as a positive force in a vibrant and dynamic Christian community.

Adopted by Christ's Church Cathedral Council on Sunday, October 5, 2008

**Clergy Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod  
(in alphabetical order)**

**Archbell, The Reverend Jean**

- Rector St. Elizabeth, Burlington September 2005 – present
- Associate Priest St. Christopher's, Burlington January 2002 - August 2005
- Director of Pastoral Care St. Christopher's, Burlington November 1998 - January 2002
- Director Inreach & Fellowship St. Christopher's, Burlington September 1996 - November 1998
- Bishops Chaplain November 2007 - present
- Ministry Support Committee Member 2002 - 2005
- Fresh Start Facilitator April 2005 - present

**Block, The Reverend Kevin**

- Rector Christ Church, Niagara Falls July, 2004 - present
- Pastor First Mennonite Church, Vineland 1990-2003
- Married to a registered nurse; two adult children
- Journeyman woodworker
- Author of *Without Shedding of Blood* (a War of 1812 novel)
- Committed to a globally responsible diet, walking, cycling, and taking the bus

**Corfield, The Venerable Lynne**

- Rector of St. John's, Niagara Falls since 2000
- Ordained deacon and priest in 1997
- Served as Assistant and Priest-in-Charge at Church of the Redeemer from 1997 to 2000
- Bishop's Chaplain from 2001 to 2003
- Regional Dean from 2001 to 2003
- Archdeacon of Brock 2003 - present
- Member of Regional Council, Synod Council, Stewardship & Financial Development
- Member Provincial Synod 2006
- Member Provincial Executive Council 2006 – 2009
- Nominated Candidate for Bishop of Niagara 2007
- Member General Synod 2007

**Fead, The Reverend Canon Robert**

- Rector of St. George's, St. Catharines
- Regional Dean of Lincoln
- Ordained Deacon April 17, 1993
- Ordained Priest May 7, 1994
- Appointed Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral November 5, 2006
- Serves part-time as a Chaplain in the Canadian Forces
- Served as President of Downtown Council of Churches in St. Catharines
- Diocesan Committees; Budget Committee, Investment Committee
- Member of the Board of Directors for Alzheimer's Society Region of Niagara



## **Clergy Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod (continued)**

### **Lazerte, The Reverend Canon Darcey**

- Rector of St. Simon's, Oakville February 2004 - present
- Rector St. John, Cayuga and St. John's, York May 1998 - January 2004
- Assistant Curate St. Jude's, Oakville February 1996 - April 1998
- Member and current Chair Financial Advisory Committee January 2006 to present
- Past Diocesan Committees: Stewardship & Financial Development 2003 - 2005; Synod Council 2000 - 2001; Congregational Development and Support 1999 - 2001
- YLTP leader 1998 - 2000
- Final year Doctor of Ministry Program in Evangelism, Trinity College

### **McPetrie, The Venerable Bruce A.**

- Rector of St. Columba's Church, St. Catharines since 1982
- Archdeacon of Lincoln
- Diocesan Administrator Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines
- Member of Synod Council
- Previous appointments: four Guelph parishes, St. Stephen, Niagara Falls
- Chair: Local Arrangements for Provincial and General Synods; Commission on Vocational Diaconate; Diocesan Mission & Ministry
- Convened Servers' Festivals and Bishop's Conference on Spirituality
- Chaplain Niagara Regional Police
- Established Habitat for Humanity, Niagara, Project Manager and Board Chairman

### **Morgan, The Reverend Katherine**

- Ordained deacon and priest in 1996
- Assistant Curate, St. Simon's Oakville 1996 - 1998
- Rector, Christ Church, Woodburn 1998 - 2007
- Rector, St John the Divine, Cayuga & St John's, York 2007 to present
- Regional Dean, Mohawk Clericus 2003 to present
- Emergency Preparedness & Pandemic Planning Task Force 2006 -present
- Niagara Youth Conference Staff 1997 to present
- Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee 1997 - 2007
- Youth Ministry Training Program 2002 - 2004
- Bishop's Appointee to Synod Council 2002

### **Murray, The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret**

- Rector St. Matthias' Church, Guelph, 2000
- Ordained: Deacon - 1987; Priest - 1988
- Doctor of Ministry: Advanced Congregational Studies
- Mission Strategy Committee 1997 - 2008
- Ministry Formation: Niagara Continuing Education, Chaplain to Ordinands, College of Deacons 2003 - 2008
- Leadership Roles: Archdeacon of Undermount, Synod Council, Regional Council
- General Synods – 1992 & 1995: Committees: Doctrine & Worship, Nominations.

## **Clergy Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod (continued)**

### **Murray, The Reverend Stephen**

- Rector, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton 2006 - present
- Assistant Curate, St. James, Dundas 2003 - 2006
- Camp Coordinator, Canterbury Hills 2000 - 2005
- Youth Minister - St. James, Guelph 1997 - 1998; St. James United, Waterdown 1998 - 1999
- Diocese of Niagara - Youth Delegate to Provincial Synod 1994; Youth Delegate to General Synod 1998
- Co-chaplain with youth, General Synod 2004
- Anglican Church of Canada, Partners In Mission Committee 1998 - 2001
- Ask & Imagine Staff 2000, 2006

### **Swire, The Reverend Canon Kristine**

- Rector of the Church of the Ascension, Hamilton
- Is serving as Padre of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry
- Has received a Fellowship from the College of Preachers, Washington D.C.
- Has served the Diocese of Niagara on Financial Advisory Committee, Mission Strategy and Synod Council
- Is Dame Chaplain to the Knights Hospitaller of St John of Jerusalem

### **Tiller, The Reverend Canon Mark**

- Regional Dean of Greater Wellington
- Member of Synod Council 2006 - Present
- Secretary of 2007 Episcopal Election Synod
- Chair, Diocesan Synod Planning Committee, 2003, 2004, 2005 & 2007
- Chair, Diocesan Magnetic Church Conference Planning Committee, 2004 & 2005
- Member of Diocesan Evangelism Working Group, 2002 - Present
- Member of Diocesan Parish Assessment Task Force, 2004 - 2006
- Member of Bishop's Synod Task Force
- Diocesan Delegate to 2000 Provincial Synod
- Padre of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197 - January 1995 to August 1999
- Past Member of Diocesan Division of Ministry Committee
- Member of Board of Directors of Acton Foodshare (Community Food Bank)
- Secretary/Treasurer of The Acton Ministerial

### **Wilson, The Reverend Susan**

- Ordained Deacon and Priest in 2003
- Currently serve the congregations of St. Paul's, Shelburne and Christ Church, Whitfield as Rector since 2005
- Chair of Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank Steering Committee since 2006
- Member of Canterbury Hills Board of Directors since 2006
- Associate of Sisterhood of St. John the Divine since 2007
- Served the congregation of St. Alban's, Grand Valley as Priest-in-Charge 2003 to 2005
- Member of Mothers' Union since 1995
- Prior to Ordination, Independent Occupational Therapy Consultant 1994 - 2001

**Lay Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod  
(in alphabetical order)**

**Barnes, Mrs. Valerie**

- Born in England, came to Newfoundland, Canada 1972
- Member of St Christopher's, Burlington for 33 years
- Synod Lay delegate 1982 - 1984, 1994 - 1997, current
- Bishop's Appointee to Synod under Bishop Bothwell's Episcopacy
- Warden 1994 - 1997
- Currently involved with PAC, liturgy in parish, Book Club and Community Dinner
- Past Diocesan Committees; Member and Chair Programme Committee, Executive Committee; Interim Ministry Team Consultant; Interim Ministry Committee
- Served as Provincial ACPO assessor 2001 - 2003, 2008

**Davis, Mrs. Patricia**

- Member of St. James and St. Brendan, Port Colborne
- People's and Rector's Warden; Parish Council/Corporation
- Choir, Past President, Junior Choir Assistant
- Licensed Lay Reader; Envelope Secretary
- Hall Renovation Campaign Manager
- Committees – Worship; *Survive and Thrive* Chair; Screening in Faith; Employee Hiring; Church/Hall Renovations
- Member, Chair Brock Regional Council
- Member Diocesan Synod Council; Synod Council Coordinating Team; Greening Niagara
- Retired Elementary Principal

**Gillett, Mr. Ross**

- Lay delegate to Ontario Synod, member Ontario Synod Council
- Diocesan Committees; Synod Council; Chair Ministry Support; DM&M Task Force; Church Extension
- Lay Reader, Lay Delegate, Parish Council - St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls
- Awarded Order of Niagara 2002
- Rector's/People's Warden, Vestry Clerk, Lay Reader, Lay Delegate & Parish Council, former St. Martin's, Niagara Falls
- Brock Region past chair and secretary
- Member All Saints Mission Management Board, Niagara Falls

**Holyoke, Mr. Paul**

- Member of St. James, Fergus
- Married, two daughters
- Lay delegate to Synod
- Interests - Outreach to local community; church's response to global issues
- Lawyer; former General Counsel, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, Toronto
- Currently Board member, Waterloo-Wellington Local Health Integration Network, Guelph
- Completing PhD at University of Toronto in Health Policy

## **Lay Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod (continued)**

### **Kelk, Mr. Russell**

- Member of St. Alban the Martyr, Hamilton
- Pastoral Visitor
- Member of Worship Committee
- Member of Parish Council
- Lay delegate to Synod
- Parish representative to Undermount Regional Council
- Undermount Region Chair
- Member of Synod Council
- Co-chair of the Greening Niagara Committee
- Group Commissioner 1st North Grimsby Scout Group
- Retired Automotive Electrical and Fuel technician
- Married to Yvonne for 52 years. Two children Kathy and Russ Jr., three grandchildren Kyle, Michael and Stacy

### **Little, Mrs. Susan**

- Lay delegate since 1992
- Provincial Synod delegate 2006
- Synod Council and Undermount Regional Council Chair (2000-2004); Co-ordinating Team (2002-2004)
- ACPO assessor
- Diocesan Court since 1999
- Undermount Parish Viability Committee
- Children's Festival Co-founder & Co-ordinator since 1983
- Parish small group & Bible studies leader
- Summer camp Bible study & VBS leader
- Camp Artaban and Canterbury Hills afficianado
- Cursillista
- Scouts Canada Leader, Trainer & Commissioner

### **Martin, Mrs. Ruth Anne**

- Member of Our Saviour the Redeemer, Stoney Creek
- Parish Council member
- Lay Delegate
- Undermount Regional Council member
- Fresh Start Facilitator
- Participant in the Liturgy Conversation
- Recorder for Finance and Budget Subcommittee
- Order of Niagara recipient
- Former People's Warden
- Actively involved for many years in Christian Education, Children's Ministry, Stewardship Campaigns, Visioning Exercises, Bereavement Programs, and Transitional Ministry

## **Lay Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod (continued)**

### **Pawson, Mr. Robert**

- Member of St. Christopher's, Burlington for eight years
- Head of servers 6½ years
- Parish Council 5 years
- Diocesan Synod 3 years
- Volunteer at the weekly community dinner
- "Santa" for Christmas Eve Family Service & Christmas Market
- Limo driver for both Bishops Ralph and Michael
- Leader with Scouts Canada 15years
- On-call Chaplin Joseph Brant Hospital
- Taking the Bishop's Diploma Courses

### **Ricketts, Mr. David**

- Current Lay Delegate to Diocese of Niagara Synod for St. James, Dundas
- Current Lay Member of Provincial Synod for the Diocese of Niagara
- Licensed Lay Reader in the Parish of St. James, Dundas
- Recipient of Diocesan Order of Niagara 2003
- Member of the Financial Advisory Committee; Investment Sub-Committee; Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Building; Bishop's Decennial Inspection Committee

### **Scott, Mr. George**

- Founding member of St. Columba Parish, St. Catharines
- Former Church Warden
- Lay Reader and Chalice Bearer since 1960
- Received Order of Niagara in 2000
- Member of Parish Council
- Chairman of parish Property & Maintenance Committee for over 10 years
- Former Church School teacher
- Lay Delegate to Synod

### **Summers, Mrs. Carol**

- Member of St John's, York, Lay Reader, Warden, Altar Guild President
- Honorary Lay Secretary of Synod
- Publisher's Advisory Board, Niagara Anglican
- Former committees: Evangelism Workgroup, Secretary of Mohawk Regional Council, Diocesan Synod Council, its Coordinating Team Cathedral Place Property Management Committee, Cursillo Communications Committee
- Member of Provincial Synod 2000, Executive Committee 2003
- General Synod 2004, 2007

## **Lay Nominations for the 2009 Provincial Synod (continued)**

### **Wood, Mrs. Gillian**

- Cradle Anglican, born Birmingham, England 1939
- Immigrated to Winnipeg 1965 as a Physiotherapist
- Canadian Citizen
- All Saints' Windsor ON: Warden 6 years, Diocesan Synod Representative, ACW, Chancel Guild
- St. Andrew's Grimsby 2003: Warden, Diocesan Synod Representative, ACW Past-President, Altar Guild, Gardener
- Volunteer at General Synod in St. Catharine's
- Very Liberal Anglican
- President Lawn Bowling Club
- Member Curling Club, Garden Club, Canadian Federation of University Women